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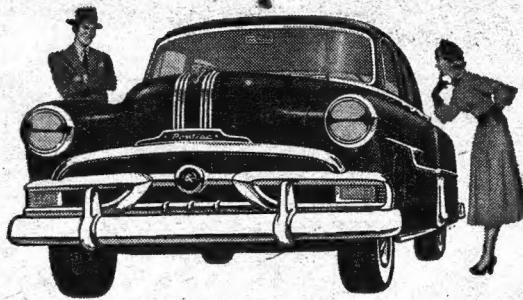
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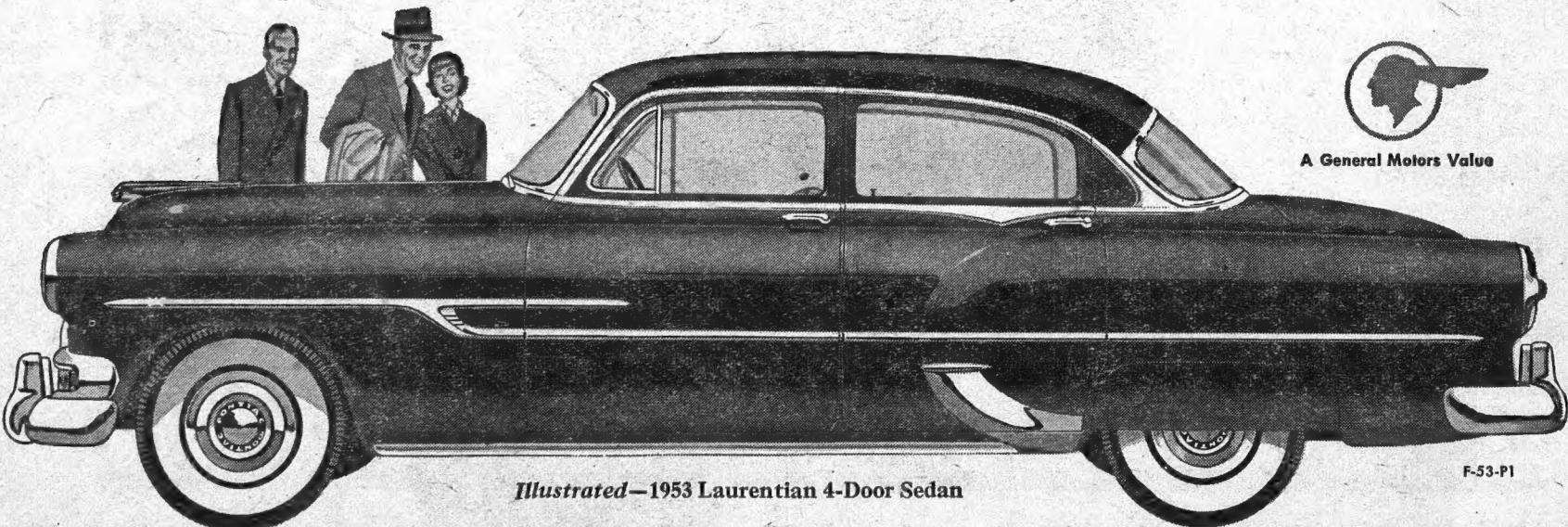
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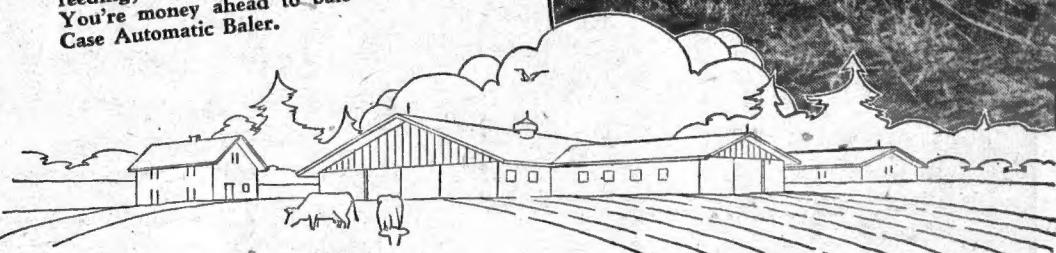
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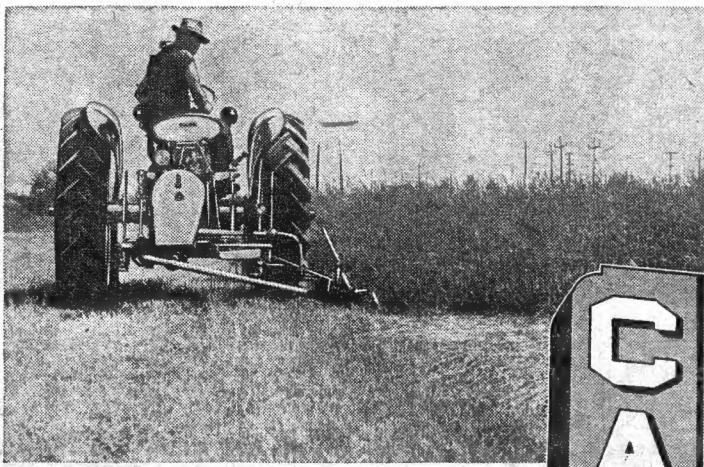


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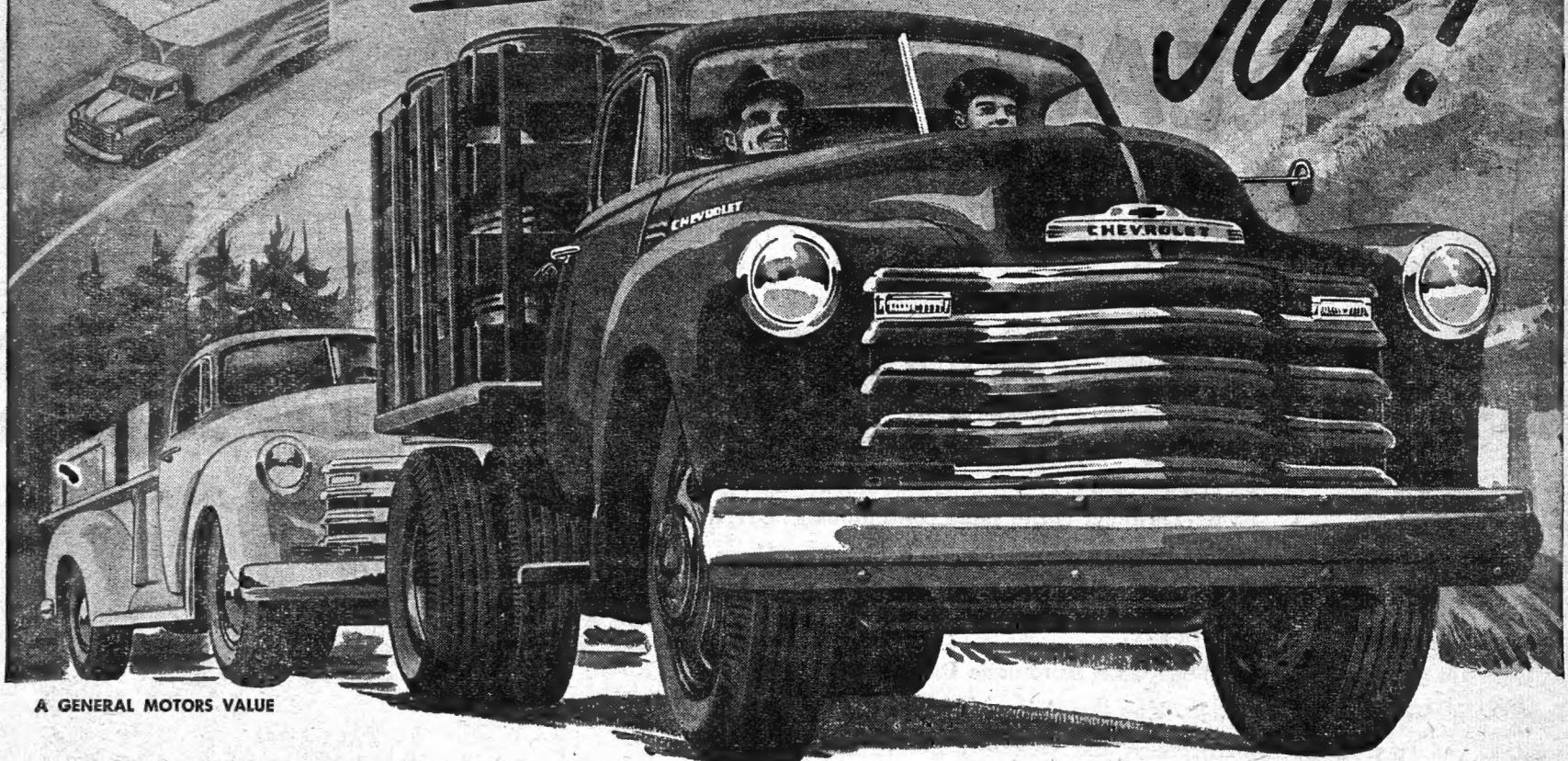
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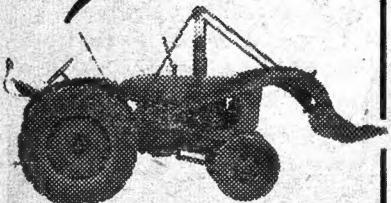
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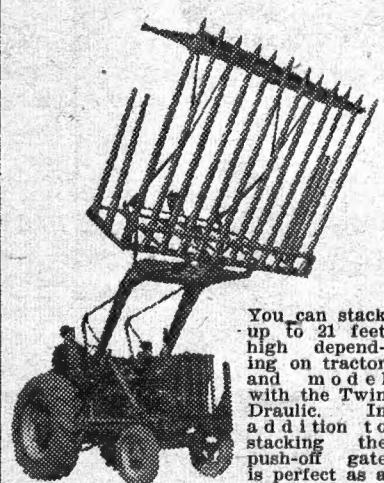
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The Farm and Ranch Review

Graphic Arts Bldg., Calgary, Alberta

Vol. XLIX Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson No. 4

James H. Gray, Editor

P. Peterson, Advertising Manager

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Published Monthly by
Farm and Ranch Review Limited
Printed by Western Printing &
Lithographing Co. Ltd.
Graphic Arts Bldg., Calgary, Alta.

Entered as Second-class Mail
Matter at the Post Office,
Calgary, Alta.

Member of the
Audit Bureau of Circulations
EASTERN ADVERTISING OFFICES
Room 201, 7 Adelaide St. East,
Toronto, Ont.

W. H. Pearce, Representative

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Both types of fertilizer show profit in Manitoba

(From Brandon Experimental Station)

IN 1937, an experimental project was begun at the Reclamation Station, Melita, Man., to compare rotted manure with commercial fertilizer for wheat in a three-year rotation of summerfallow, wheat, wheat. The manure was applied at the rate of 10 tons per acre early in the fallow year. The chemical fertilizers were applied through a standard fertilizer attachment and included ammonium phosphate 11-48-0 at forty pounds, ammonium phosphate 16-20-0 at ninety-six pounds and triple superphosphate 0-48-0 at forty-five pounds per acre. Yields from fertilized plots were compared with check plots which received no fertility treatment.

The average yield of wheat on summerfallow from the check plots was 18.1 bushels per acre for the sixteen-year period. Compared with this, the plots receiving manure in the fallow year had an increased yield of 5.6 bushels per acre. The application of A.P. 11-48-0 increased the yield by 4.5 bushels, A.P. 16-20-0 2.9 bushels and T.S.P. 2.9 bushels per acre. The in-

creased yields resulted in a profit per acre, after deducting the cost of fertilizer and manure, of \$2.59, \$4.13, \$1.23 and \$2.24 respectively.

Second crop wheat yielded an average of 12.4 bushels per acre on the check plots. Wheat, grown as second crop following the application of manure in the fallow year, yielded 16.3 bushels per acre. Applications of A.P. 16-20-0 to second crop wheat resulted in a yield increase of 3.9 bushels compared with 1.6 bushels for A.P. 11-48-0 and 0.1 bushels for T.S.P. The profit per acre resulting from these treatments was \$2.28 for manure and \$1.75 for A.P. 16-20-0. Applications of A.P. 11-48-0 and T.S.P. resulted in losses of 15c and \$1.78 respectively.

The use of commercial fertilizer or manure on the light textured soils of south-western Manitoba has been profitable during years when relatively high grain prices prevailed, and when moisture conditions were conducive to good crops.

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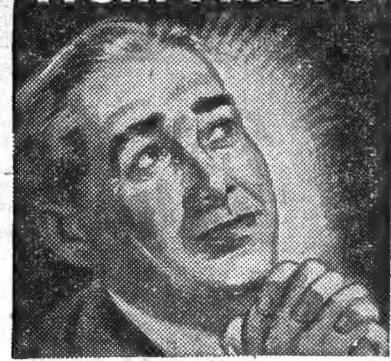
ABSORBINE

File No. 26310

NOTICE

The Public Trustee, Land Titles Building, Edmonton, Alberta, would like to locate the next of kin of the late Abe Lawrence, deceased, of Bewberry, Alberta, who died on the 7th of March, 1952. He is said to have a son, John Lawrence, and a daughter, Margaret Fair or Farr whose photograph appeared in the Farm and Ranch Review about 7 or 8 years ago. Will anyone having any information respecting the next of kin of the deceased, please communicate with the Public Trustee at the above address.

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The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

The price squeeze villain is "weltwerbesserungswahn"

WE have all been hearing a lot, lately, and talking a lot about the farmers and the price squeeze. Industrial wage rates continue to rise, the prices of things the farmers buy continue upward. At the same time the prices of farm products have fallen; but have declined much less at the retail level than at the farm level.

In the face of these facts, a lot of worrying is being done by farmers and farm leaders. For several years they have been deeply concerned. But the crisis they have expected has failed to develop. Instead the farmers have been more prosperous than ever before. The reason for this strange contradiction is not far too seek. It is production. We have had three years of record crops, capped by the biggest crop in history. It has been the size of the crop that has taken up the slack in farm income.

But we can be sure of this — these tremendous crops will not continue. When we get back to a series of short crops, the squeeze will be on in earnest. In the meanwhile, let's take time out to examine the squeeze, let's see what the factors are which have created this condition.

Two causes stand above all the others—the war and the welfare state. During the war wage rates, particularly in war industries, doubled and redoubled. In order to maintain essential peacetime services, other wage rates had to keep pace with the war plants. Normally, after the war, a shake-down would have taken place. The wage level would have been lowered to a more realistic level. Instead, this time, wages continued to rise.

At the same time, the country became bitten by the welfare bug. A refugee German philosopher disgustedly described our mclady as "weltwerbesserungswahn". Translated it means "make-this-a-better-world-in-which-to-live-mania". We went berserk in the adoption of cradle-to-grave pension schemes, both publicly and privately.

The fact of all these schemes, public and private, went automatically into the price of things we have to buy. The governments of Canada are spending a billion dollars a year on children's allowances, pensions, etc. The Dominion raises just about that amount through the 10 per cent sales tax, levied at the manufacturers' level. Every time a farmer buys a truck or a car, a suit of clothes or a pair of boots or a tin of beans, he pays a piece of that sales tax. Fortunately he does not have to pay it on his farm equipment.

Or put it this way: The price of everything we buy contains so much for material, so much for labor, so much for pension and welfare schemes. The manufacturers' employees all have their pension plans, their sickness insurance, their accident insurance, their holidays with pay. The cost of all these things is tacked onto the price the farmer pays.

The farmer has to pay the freight on all the things he buys as well as on everything he sells. Freight rates, except on grain have doubled since the war. Part of every dollar in freight he pays goes to pay for the pensions, welfare schemes, paid vacations, etc., of all the railway workers.

All this is true, moreover, for all the concerns through which goods pass between manufacturer and consumer. But still another important factor must be added—taxes. Our corporations today regard cor-

Mr. Rush Purdy

THE sudden death of Rush Purdy came as a distinct shock to the thousands of Alberta farmers to whom he was something more than general manager of the Alberta Wheat Pool. He was their friend; soft spoken, kindly, quiet and tolerant, the man who somehow personified the organization they wanted to build.

He was the directing head of the biggest business in Alberta. He was a man, with an infinite capacity for getting along with people, who until his death was the only manager the Alberta Wheat Pool ever had. He saw it through its early growth, he was with it during the "shaking-down" process during the late 1920's. He was there during the terrible years of the 1930's, then through the war years and into the less turbulent 1950's.

That much of the credit for the success of the Alberta Wheat Pool belongs to Mr. Purdy must be conceded by all. He came into it at the very beginning from the office of the Bank of Montreal. He brought to it something greater than mere cleverness — the strength of a great personality. Nothing that happened during any of its recurring crises shook for a moment his conviction that the Wheat Pool way of marketing was the best thing for the farmers. His calm, almost dispassionate approach to the problems of the day had a quieting effect on the nerves of all who came in contact with him.

This side of his personality hid from many the fact that the Wheat Pool was his life, that while it was never revealed on the surface, the long years of heavy responsibility took their toll of his health. His death, at 64, ends a lifetime of selfless devotion to the cause of the farmers of the West. In a real sense, Rush Purdy gave his whole life to the Wheat Pool.

poration and all other taxes as a normal cost of doing business. They budget for them in the calculating of their costs and each item sold has a piece tacked onto the price to pay corporation and business taxes.

Because our taxes on both corporation profits and individual incomes have been so

heavy, the impact of these taxes on the price level has also been heavy. Industrial employees, watching their buying power shrinking have been able to catch up by getting wage increases.

The farmers, being the last men in line, have been paying the shot for everybody else. They pay for the national welfare schemes, for the myriad of private welfare schemes, for everybody else's taxes. There is no way in which they can pass the taxes along. That's one side of the picture. It's bad enough, but it's nothing to compare with the other side — the selling side.

For the things he has to sell, the farmer can get only what the market will bring. When the price of beef rose to a level comparable to industrial wages, the consumers stopped eating beef. Then foot-and-mouth cut farm income from livestock almost in half. Our wheat is sold, domestically, under an artificial ceiling price.

The farmer has no private welfare schemes to protect him. He gets no vacation with pay, no pay for statutory holidays, no special pensions, unemployment insurance, accident compensation or anything else. He can't get even by loading his prices with all the costs of doing business and having someone else foot the bill. He pays for everybody else's pensions and he gets nothing for himself except the state sponsored schemes for which he pays.

So it seems to us that the farmers of the West have got to do some pretty straight thinking on the welfare state issue. A case can be made out for a national welfare and pension scheme. We concede that for the sake of the argument. A case can be made out for industrial pensions and welfare schemes. But we are convinced that no case whatever can be made out for both, and it is the existence of both that today is causing a great deal of the pressure than can eventually ruin the farmers of the West.



Our vital railways

WHEN the Canadian railways don't perform quite up to scratch, when they don't have boxcars where we want them when we want them, we're inclined to blow our collective tops. But when the railways do a hang-up job, as they did this year, we take it as a matter of course. Certainly no farm organization ever calls a special meeting to pass a special resolution praising the railways. Sometimes, we think, it might be a good idea if they did.

Sometimes, too, we ought to be just a little thankful for the great faith and foresight of the pioneer statesmen of this country who gave us this magnificent system of moving our grain to market. Certainly if we had to depend upon the trucks to get our wheat to the ports, we'd all starve to death in this country. Not, of course, that the railways don't earn a profit doing the job for us. But it can at least be argued that they would make just as much money if they didn't do the job as well.

These are things which we might keep in mind during the rest of the year, when we have goods to ship or places to go. We need the trains in our business. We need them more than we need anything else in the world. But when the occasion arises to ship something other than wheat, or take a trip, the railways are often the last thing that

(Continued from page 8)

Farm and Ranch Editorials

Must all work cease from Friday till Monday

THERE are times when we think that the sillier an idea is the faster it is bound to spread in this country. Take this nonsense in Vancouver where the elevator employees are on strike to force the elevators to close Saturdays or pay them time and a half for working that day. Was there ever anything quite as absurd? Now the grain handlers at the head of the lakes are proposing to go on strike just as navigation opens to enforce the same demand.

First of all, let's clear the air. The newspapers and union spokesmen have been calling this a strike for a 40-hour week. It is nothing of the kind. In the last half century the whole method of production has been transformed. A hundred years ago, factories often worked a 12-hour day, sometimes worked seven days a week.

Eventually the eight-hour day was established. At the same time, however, the trend was toward continuous operation. Great economies were realized. Costs of production dropped. A whole new system was devised of staggering working hours. There were day shifts, night shifts and part day and part night shifts. Those who worked the inconvenient hours were paid at a slightly higher rate. Thus it did not matter how many hours people worked each week. Continuous operation of the plants was taken for granted.

At the height of our grain shipping season on the lakes, this sort of operation is a necessity. But now the elevator workers, car sweepers, etc., are demanding that the elevators close down on Friday afternoon and stay closed until Monday morning. What utter nonsense! The railways work around the clock. Steamships work around the clock. Both operate seven days a week.

To be consistent, the unions would require that all ships on the Great Lakes drop anchor at five o'clock Friday afternoon and stay anchored until 8 o'clock Monday morning. They would require that all trains, buses, trucks, airplanes, telephones, public utilities and everything else stop dead on Friday afternoon.

Why do they make such a demand? Ostensibly because they say they do not want to work on Saturdays or Sundays. Here we have a group of the least skilled workers in the country, men who can be replaced at a moment's notice by anybody who can push a broom or lift a shovel, setting themselves up as arbiters of the Canadian work week.

This excuse is transparently fraudulent. They want to work Saturday all right. Make no mistake about that. But they want to collect a minimum of \$18 or \$20 for the Saturdays they spend pushing their brooms and shovels, instead of the \$12 or \$13 they would earn on the other week-days.

(Continued from page 7)

enters our mind. We are not arguing against trucks, buses, airplanes, private cars or even walking. We are only saying we think the railways deserve just a bit more consideration from us than we have given them in the past.

They put forward such a demand because they think they can get away with it. They know the farmers will suffer badly from a strike. They expect pressure to be built up which will force the elevators to accede to their demands. In this, we think, they have made some grave miscalculations.

★

Let's correct the Bull Sale faults

LIKE "Topsy", the Calgary Bull Sale grew until it has become the biggest thing of its kind on the continent. Its rapid growth has given it growing pains, the symptoms of which were painfully apparent this year.

The sale has reached a point where it has a number of important decisions to make. For example, if it is the desire of all concerned to maintain its position as the "world's biggest" then it will soon have to start to act like the "world's biggest". In other words, this is a big league outfit and it can no longer afford the informal trappings that are part and parcel of the bush leagues.

What are the faults of the sale? It takes much too long to be completed. In its present form, it requires that some breeders and some buyers spend at least a week and perhaps 10 days in Calgary. This is an expensive thing for farmers seeking bulls

and for farmers with bulls to sell. If the sale is to continue to attract buyers from all over the West and the United States, it will have to devise some means of shortening procedure.

One suggestion heard around the barns this year, particularly from some Hereford men, was that the white-face owners should pull out and go it on their own. In other words, two shows. The Angus and Short-horn breeders would have theirs at one time and the Herefords at another. We think this would be a serious backward step.

Another suggestion has been to drastically reduce the number of bulls permitted to be sold; to cut the sale back to 700 or 800 animals.

It seems to us that all the trouble could be quickly overcome by speeding up the sale. It was permitted this year to drag intolerably. Nobody expects an auctioneer to unduly hurry the bidders for the top-quality animals. When the price of the bull they want goes \$1,000 above what they hoped to pay, buyers have an excuse for hanging on their bids. But there was no excuse whatever for the slowness at which mediocre animals moved through the ring.

Bulls that failed to attract opening bids of \$300, and attract them quickly, often took as much time to get through the ring as those in the \$1,000 bracket. A strictly enforced limit on the time an auctioneer was permitted to spend on mediocre stock could have cut the time taken this year by a third.

In addition, the breeders should be encouraged to do their sales talking to prospects in the barns, and not in the auction ring. It, incidentally, could be profitably cleared of everybody but the auctioneers who should do the bid catching when they are not doing the selling.

The expert's hare-brained solution— reduce educational standards

OUR February editorial on education produced such a response from all across the Prairies that we opened up some extra room for letters in the March issue. In order to encourage the discussion of this vital question, we relaxed our rule on length of letters. We tried to choose for publication those which were illustrative of points made by several other writers.

Frankly, the replies from Manitoba and Saskatchewan rather surprised us. We had not appreciated that the criticisms we had made of the Alberta system were equally valid in the other provinces. Obviously, they were.

What the solution to the problem is we do not know. We do not suggest that the old Canadian system was perfect, nor that the California system we have adopted is entirely wrong. But we do know that the education of our children is in a sorry mess. We have this on the word of the deputy minister of education of Alberta, Dr. W. H. Swift.

The newspaper accounts of his recent speech were confused and perhaps garbled. But Dr. Swift was quoted as saying that the standards in Alberta were being reduced, apparently in an effort to enable students to make a better showing than they had been able to do with higher standards. That there were any standards, high or low, will come as a surprise to many parents.

What must shock every Alberta parent

to the marrow is this: No other Canadian University will henceforth permit graduates to enroll from Alberta high schools. They can get into the University of Alberta, but if they move elsewhere they will have to go back to high school.

It does seem to us that the confessions of Dr. Swift are an indictment of the whole Alberta system. After 15 years or so of following the modernist theory of learning by doing, we come to the conclusion that the system is not working. The pupils are not measuring up to the standard they should measure up to. So instead of scrapping the system, or substantially modifying it, we reduce the standard and hope that perhaps they will measure up to it.

Presumably, if this logic is followed, and the system continues to fail, we will lower the standard still further. If the pupils, because of the built-in faults of the system of instruction, make no progress we will blame it on the standard. Now we freely confess that once you embrace the mumbo-jumbo of modernist educational theory, all this becomes logical. But to the parents of this country, who pay for and want to get, reasonably educated graduates from our public and high schools it is nothing short of outrageous.

But until these same parents rise up in their righteous wrath and take action to put an end to all this nonsense, nothing constructive is going to be done.

Let's take a look at the mass-angle in education

By ERNEST LARSON

A FRIEND of mine has a wee hopeful established in the first grade at school. I looked at his report card recently. He was rated very well in his school subjects but was broadly clipped on scores pertaining to group integration. (Our report cards were innocent of any such fine distinctions. Conduct was the only word.)

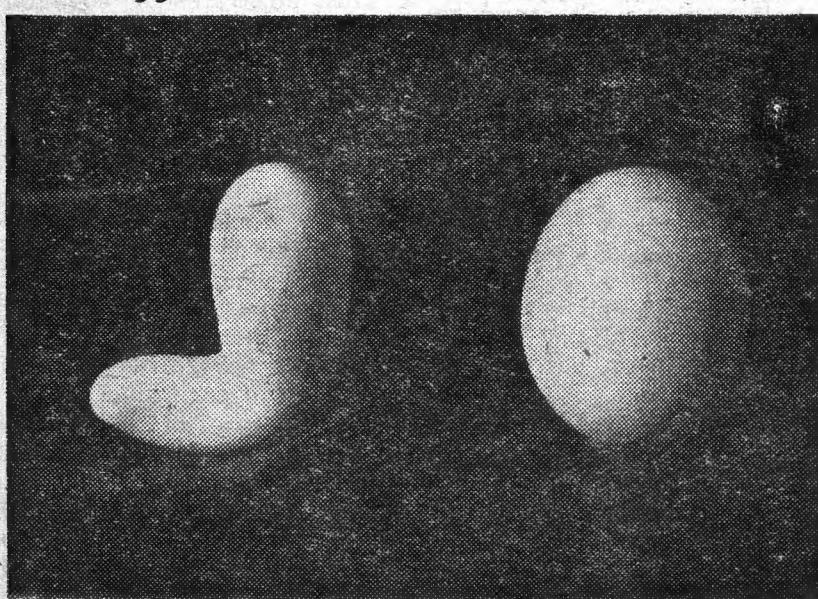
He was not anti-social; not given to mischief. He merely had a tendency to be overly important. He wanted to be IT, but wanting to be IT has fallen out of favor in our day. That urge is supposed to be sublimated in a wider desire to make the group IT; which is thought to serve the interests of democracy.

That is what the educational system is trying to develop in the younger generation. That is why it is not as important that a pupil learn as it used to be. And that, I suspect, is why there is no grave concern over the ignorance regarding Elizabeth I, W. L. Mackenzie King, John A. Macdonald, Wilfrid Laurier and other individualists.

As long as the citizen matures with the ability to trace his ancestry to some primordial slime pit he need not know much about what happened in between. Why should he? He has made a great discovery. He does not need to claw his way up the steep hillsides to fame and fortune. That was for dumb individualists of the past.

The smart operator now is the fellow who lays hold of the principle that two are stronger than one, especially if they manage to occupy key positions. If they number twenty-two thousand they get a chair life to the top, and these lessons are not lost on the little ones who are fed their daily portion of current events.

Some Egg!



Mrs. E. L. Wanek, Rochfort Bridge, Alta., won \$10 for this picture of a futuristic looking egg.

In order to become a successful mass man a person must first learn to be a mass child. What could be more logical? A generation of individualists would view with alarm the many-armed operations of the state. The essence of the Big State is thought and action by proxy. It is the psychology of the super-market. The shelves of life are stacked with all sorts of packaged, canned, pre-mixed and pre-cooked merchandise. (And next on order is state medicine to see that we digest it properly.) All the mass needs do is to barge in and load up, but en masse. That is our way of life.

Even the farmers, staunchest individualists of history, are really individualists no more. They now demand en masse that government bureaucrats do their thinking, their marketing. They would rather take the average from this system than to rely on their own judgment and initiative. Much has been said for this and for the union's big squeeze but both have their price and that price is the loss of the individual in the crowd. The schools of today are preparing the child for his role in that society.

Just as the amorphous mass is less precise and less responsible than the individual so is education for the mass less precise and less responsible than is education for the individual. Identity with the crowd has always sheltered a multitude of sins. Has a lynching mob ever been brought to justice?

If Churchill had succumbed to the mentality of the modern report card we fear that we might never have heard of him. So let us hope that genius will still kindle its own fires and keep strong and unbroken the chain of human progress and achievement.

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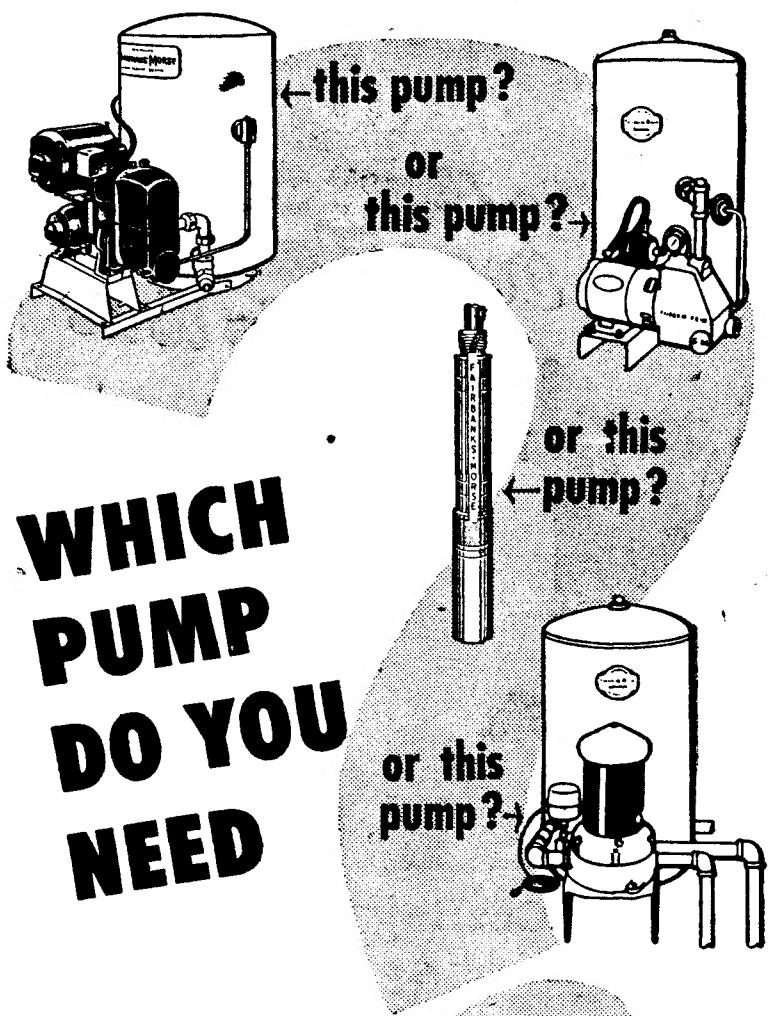
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Herd improvement impossible unless you understand genetics

By HOWARD D. FREDEEN
Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe

THE word genetics seems to strike a chill into the hearts of many livestock breeders. They seem to think of it as a mysterious process that is difficult to understand, and one that can be disregarded in their breeding programs. When undesirable traits appear in their herd they blame it on bad luck or on the breeder of the last herd sire they purchased instead of seeking to understand the genetic processes by which such characteristics arise.

But while breeders are reluctant to accept genetics they do not hesitate to subscribe to superstitions and myths that are absolutely without foundation. One belief common among horse breeders as well as dog breeders states that if a purebred female is bred to a mongrel or cold blooded sire she will henceforth be useless as a producer of purebred offspring because of a lasting effect of the indiscrete mating. And this belief persists even though it has been shown time and time again that the life of sperm, even under the best of conditions, is only a few days and that the genetic make-up of an animal is determined by the joining of the male and female reproductive cells at each individual conception.

Still Have Tails

Another belief is that of inheritance of acquired characteristics — yet if this were true, would not all our sheep be tailless after so many generations of dockings! These two examples will serve to illustrate the several superstitions that stand in the way of progressive livestock improvement.

The genetic factors which govern the development of all characteristics of an individual — eye color, coat color, rate of growth, etc. — occur in pairs in every cell of the body. In reproduction the germ cells divide in half so that each sperm or egg produced will carry a single genetic factor from each pair present in the original cell. In fertilization, which is the union of a sperm and an egg, the progeny receives half of its genetic factors from the sire and half from the dam and the original number of genetic factors is thus restored.

A simple example of inheritance to illustrate this process is concerned with coat color in Shorthorn cattle. One pair of genetic factors controls this color but the members of this pair may be of two kinds, one which produces red and the other producing white. An animal pure for the "red" factor will be red in color; if pure for the "white" factor the coat color will be white. But if one factor of this pair produces red

and other produces white the animal is a roan.

Now take the case where two roan animals are mated together. Half of the reproductive cells produced by each animal will carry the "red" factor, and the other half will carry the "white" factor. By combining these in every possible combination it is apparent that one quarter of the progeny will be red, one quarter will be white, and the remainder half will be roan.

For convenience this may be reduced to symbols. If R represents the factor producing red color and W the factor for white, then a red animal will be RR (pure for red) and a white animal will be WW (pure for white). The mating of a red with a white animal is represented as—

RR x WW

All of the progeny will be RW or roan since they receive one factor from each parent.

Since chance alone will determine which germ cell (R or W) from one parent will unite with a given germ cell from the other parent it is impossible to predict exactly the color of a particular calf from such a mating. But it can be easily understood that when this mating is repeated many times the offspring produced will be in the proportion of one red, two roans and one white.

Another simple example of inheritance is that of presence or absence of horns in cattle. Anyone who has used a purebred Angus sire in cross-breeding with Hereford or Shorthorn females will know that the calves are always polled.

Yet if the polled crossbred heifers are mated to a Shorthorn bull, half of the calves will be polled and the other half horned.

Dominance

This illustrates a common feature of inheritance known as dominance where one gene of a factor pair is stronger than its partner and expresses its own effect even in the presence of the other. In the case of polleding the "polled" characteristic is dominant to that of horns so that whenever an animal pure for the "polled" factor is mated to another pure for the "horned" factor all the offspring will be polled even though they possess one factor of each kind.

This feature of dominance can be both a blessing and a curse to the livestock breeder. It is a blessing to the man who wants to use an Angus bull to dehorn his calves cheaply and efficiently. It is a curse to those breeders who have trouble with defects such as ridglings, blind-

ness, ruptures, dwarfism, etc., because the normal condition is dominant to the factors responsible for these undesirable characteristic and thus animals that appear normal may be carriers of genetic factors that produce the defects.

Consider for a moment the case of a swine breeder with a herd that has never produced a single ridgling pig. He buys a boar that looks normal but happens to be a carrier of the genetic factors responsible for the defect. Half of the progeny that result will also be carriers but, since they cannot be distinguished from the non-carriers, a certain proportion of the gilts reserved for breeding may also be carrier. Later on, when these gilts are mated to another carrier boar, some of the male progeny will receive the undesirable genetic factors from each parent and will appear as ridglings.

Whenever such defective progeny appear the breeder should recognize that both the sire and the dam must have carried the genetic factors responsible.

Long Pigs

Some of the most complex patterns of inheritance are those concerned with performance and production. Length of carcass in swine, for example, is controlled by several different pairs of genetic factors, each of which may differ in the amount they contribute to length. The longest pigs possess all or most of the factors which are capable of adding the greatest amount to length, whereas the shorter pigs carry more of the factors that have a lesser effect. Thus, if we consistently select for length, we will be able to gather more of the desirable factors together and produce a strain of pigs which breeds true for long carcasses.

This complexity of inheritance makes progress slower than is the case where a breeder is simply trying to develop a polled herd but, fortunately, the principles of selection and breeding involved are similar and may be demonstrated by use of the simple example. Suppose that a breeder has a herd of polled Shorthorns from which he gets a certain percentage of horned calves. He knows immediately that some of his cows are impure for polled and also that the bull must be impure.

He may cull the cows that have dropped horned calves, but this alone will not solve his problem and would be quite wasteful of breeding cows. Instead he may "grade up" his herd, making certain that all the bulls used are pure for the polled factor. To ensure this he will likely use the following system of selection:

1. Look for a bull whose parents were both polled and, if possible, whose grand-parents and even great grand-parents were polled. This is a type of pedigree selection and cannot be considered a sure-fire method.

2. Observe the full and half brothers and sisters of the bull. This method is most useful in swine selection where litter size is large and hence greater numbers are available.

3. Mate the new bull to several horned cows and if all calves are polled the odds are high that the bull is pure for polled. This is a progeny test and is the most critical test that can be made.

This same system can be applied to other livestock and to any charac-

teristic that is desired. Consider rate of growth in beef cattle. If the new sire has a high rate of growth himself, and if he comes from a strain of rapid gainers, then he should be a good bet as a new herd sire. But the final proof of his worth will still depend upon the manner in which his progeny grow.

Now we come to the question of the yardsticks to be used in selection. These will vary for different livestock but, generally speaking, producers are primarily concerned with economy of production. In beef cattle this means pounds of beef per pound of feed as well as quality of that beef; in dairy cattle it means pounds of milk and butterfat per pound of feed. Since many breeders depend upon the showring to provide their selection ideals we might well ask whether the showring is at present of any real value in demonstrating those qualities that determine quantity and quality of production.

To some extent the answer is yes. We must all agree that the showring does provide certain standards of type, though at times we may wish for a little greater consistency between judges. Showring ideals also embody measures of scale, of vigor and of constitution, all of which play their part in selection.

In the past, certain show-ring fads have proven quite harmful to the livestock industry. As one example may be cited the recent popularity of "pony" type cattle. Show type swung towards an extreme low set, blocky, thick-set animal which as calves and yearlings looked sensational. Experience has proven this type to be slow gaining, to be undersized as mature animals, and to be less efficient in feed utilization than the larger, conventional type.

Yet a show-ring fad managed to provide this inefficient type and spread the genetic factors responsible throughout some of the best purebred herds in the nation. This might have been avoided had performance in the feed-lot been used as part of the show-ring standards.

Livestock improvement is, at best, a slow process. This is partly because of the slow reproductive rates of livestock and partly because so many different characteristics are selected for at the same time. But improvement will be certain if a few basic principles are kept in mind. These principles may be summarized as follows:

1. Efficiency in converting feed into meat or milk is the most important factor in making a profit with livestock. Good feeding and management are important, in fact are prerequisite, but efficiency of the animals themselves is a factor to which we should pay more and more attention.

2. All the factors (prolificacy, rate and economy of growth, quality, etc.) which contribute to efficient performance have a genetic basis.

3. Because of this genetic basis the breeding worth of an animal may be predicted with reasonable accuracy from the performance of its close relatives. This assumes that the standards of feeding and management have been similar for the animals being compared. Thus performance and progeny tests have an important place in any selection program.

4. Because of dominance the appearance of an animal may not be a true measure of its breeding potential.

5. Sire and dam contribute equally to all progeny, thus the appearance of undesirable traits in the progeny is a black mark against both parents.

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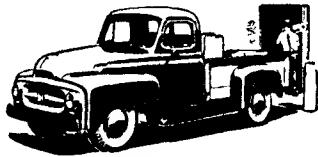
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You can beat the drought with good management!

By JOHN R. ATKINSON

(This story came in as a letter to the editor of the Farm and Ranch. It contained so much that was wise and useful that we have, with Mr. Atkinson's permission revamped it into a feature article.)

YOUR article, "I am learning the hard way" (Oct., 1952), has afforded me so much pleasure I must have got it out and read it about 15 times. I felt that I could not do less than commend you for your efforts. I am surprised that you, an editor of a really great farm paper and being something of a walking encyclopedia on matters pertaining to agriculture, would fall ker plunk into so many of the same pitfalls it has been the lot of so many of us ordinary mortals to fall in and struggle out of.

Cheap Land

Cheap land, I guess you will agree, is apt to be anything but cheap after you had hold of it for awhile. It makes you spend your money and do all kinds of things that you never intended doing. If you like losing money, it's lots of fun, and there is always the very likely hope that you will win out and finally have something to crow about. If only we knew the right thing to do at the start there would be nothing to it, but experience comes at a high price.

Louis Bromfield's experience cost him plenty. I doubt very much if he would lay out \$35.00 per acre for lime, if he had it to do over again. Friend Sykes, armed with the experience of Robert Elliot, of Clifton Park, had plain sailing. He bought his now famous farm, Chantry, 750 acres, in 1936, at four pounds an acre, and in 1951 refused an offer of 100 pounds an acre. Robert Elliot's book, "The Clifton Park System," would have been invaluable to me if I had only got it sooner. It took me thirty years and more to find out some of the simple truths about land that he wrote about fifty years ago.

Re those weeds that you mention used to worry us too on this old farm at St. Albert. They don't any more, and have not done so for many years. Once you get a good catch of grass and legumes and manage carefully it can be just about goodbye to the whole works. Careful managing may mean running a mower to check weed growth, and little if any grazing. Once the grasses and legumes get a good root hold they are boss from then on if you don't damage them.

In any decent hay crop thisles disappear. Stinkweed and foxtail, being winter annual and perennial, have to renew themselves by seed. If for any reason water covers any piece of

ground for a length of time like low spots, the margin of sloughs or rivers, etc., foxtail is almost certain to flourish and later the wind will blow the ripe foxtail all over the high ground. Any vacant spots will provide a place to propagate.

We have found that for pasture the following seed mixture will pretty well deprive both stinkweed and foxtail of a home: 8 to 10 lbs. yellow blossom sweet clover; 12 lbs. of alfalfa; 1 lb. alsike clover; 1 lb. timothy; 1 to 2 lbs. each of crested wheatgrass, brome and creeping red fescue. The reason of the small amount of alfalfa is the danger of bloat for cattle or sheep, in the third and following years.

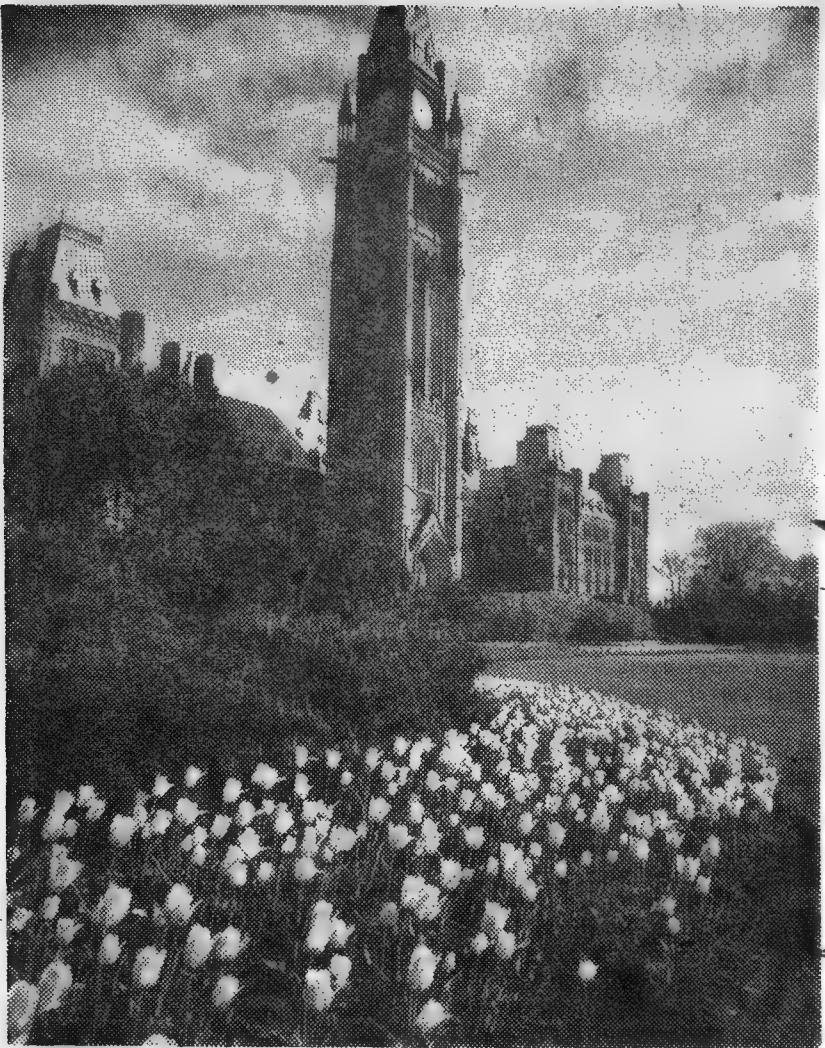
We sow with a nurse crop the following year, wait until the sweet clover, or quite a portion of it is 12 to 14 inches high before turning in any livestock—here it is between May 10 and 20.

One or two weeks later the feed should be so high that, except at very close range, the legs of cattle should not be visible. Sheep hesitate to penetrate such a pasture, but they will start at one edge and more or less make an open space. Here the stage is set for good livestock gains, and what is perhaps much more important, very rapid gain in the fertility of the field. Every year we take a few loads of hay from our pasture fields, more or less, according to the season. Do not cut the hay short. Some sweet clover seed matures and gets tramped in to maintain a partial stand.

These pasture fields gradually form a mat of dead looking turf on the surface which becomes up to about 2 inches thick in four to six years. When brought back into cultivation, our pasture fields exceed the mixed grass and alfalfa hay fields by a wide margin, producing bumper crops of grain.

I dare say that your problem is quite different to anything that I am familiar with. You will, I expect, experience more difficulty getting a good stand than anything we have had to contend with. In 1912, our first attempt with inoculated alsike seed and timothy, sown on the grey wooded land of our homesteads, 50 miles west of Edmonton, was an amazing success. Today 80 to 100-bushel crops of oats are commonplace. Before the advent of the clover on virgin land, a 50-bushel crop would be considered good.

Tulip Time in Ottawa



OTTAWA'S reputation as the Tulip Capital of Canada wasn't exactly a planned operation at first. The Federal District Commission, responsible for maintaining federal property in the city, took to planting tulips many years ago, mainly because they required little attention and could be planted in the fall, and because they dressed up the spring so handsomely. This abundance of tulips was noticed by Princess Julianna of the Netherlands when she and her family lived in Ottawa while their homeland was in enemy hands.

As a gesture of thanks and appreciation for its hospitality, Ottawa gets 100,000 Dutch tulip bulbs a year from Holland. These are planted on federal

property, and the total to date is around 500,000. Added to this delightful display are thousands more in private gardens in the Capital, and the tulips that bloom in Ottawa every May number well beyond the half-million mark.

So the people who live in the Capital, and the thousands who visit Ottawa as soon as the spring sun warms things up a little, walk past empty, neatly-rounded flower beds one evening and, next morning, find these mounds flooded with the breath-taking glory of tulips in bloom, sending their fresh, clean fragrance into the spring air, and filling the landscape of the Capital with their grace, loveliness and never-the-same color arrangement.

Our thirty-six years' experience on this farm have led us to believe that erosion can be guarded against, that weeds, while ever present, must be no menace; that artificial fertilizer caused us more loss than gain, and that apart from 60 acres, cropped only with grain for 30 years, purposely to see what would happen, the balance of this 410-acre farm has experienced a steady rise in fertility. I believe that soil fertility can be promoted rapidly and at small cost. It is infinitely cheaper to grow your own fertility than purchase it.

There is little evidence of mineral deficiency where there is heavy turf decaying or where a heavy coat of good compost has been applied to the surface, mixed in a bit and given time to act. To a large extent, mineral deficiencies exist in people's

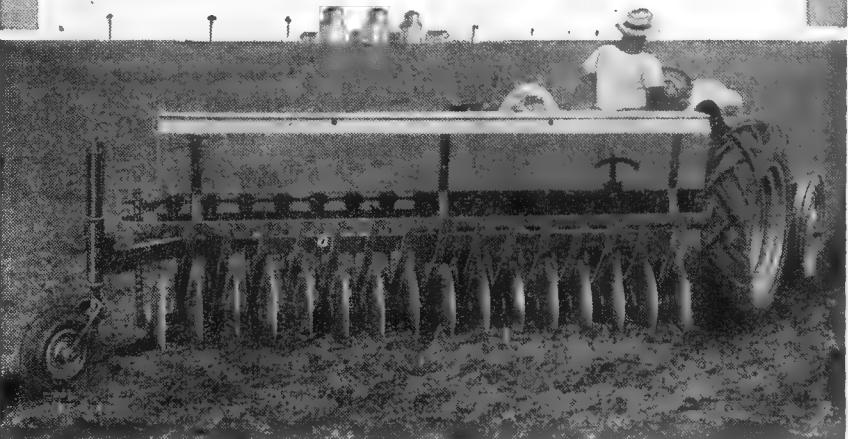
heads today, because true farming has been forgotten. Falkner says the earth is a chunk of low-grade phosphate ore. We have presumed far too much on the information from Rothamstead quite recently! The Royal Society of Tots, London W.C. 2, offered an award of £500 and a gold medal for the best essay on food production. The three top essays point out some quite astonishing achievements. Britain may yet come close to feeding herself. The R. S. O. Arts put these essays into a pamphlet, "More Food from Grass", price two shillings. Postage 6½d.

Two years ago I heard Mr. Bromfield address an audience Convocation Hall, Toronto. It was an unforgettable experience, so was a visit to Malabar Farm. This kind of thing is important.

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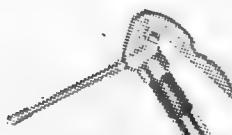
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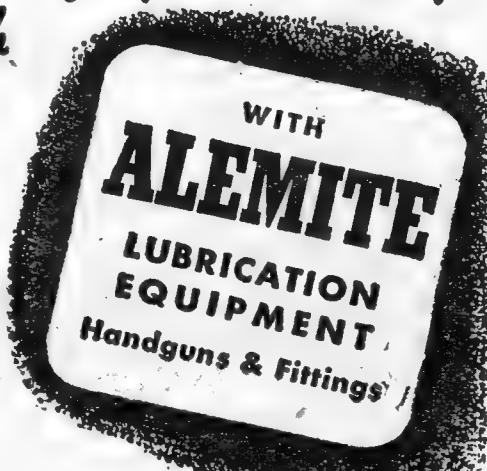
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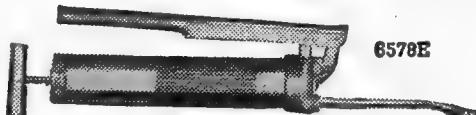


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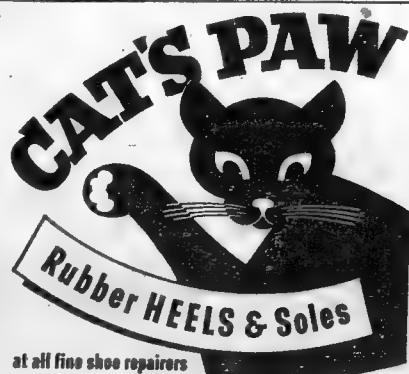
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Good bull sale for some sad lesson for others

BY JAMES H. GRAY

A FEW years back, I remember sitting around with a group of farmers after a convention. One of them had been very successful through the years in growing specialty crops. It always seemed that he was into these crops just before a boom hit them. During the depression, for example, he made quite a good thing out of Durum wheat. Then he was into malting barley and forage seeds. We were sort of kicking ideas back and forth and he got to discussing his operations.

"You know," he said. "I guess I'm just naturally a lone wolf. Anyways I always figure that the time to get out of something is when everybody else is getting in; and the time to get in is when everybody else is getting out."

I was reminded of that conversation at the recent Calgary bull sale. This was a curious sale, in this respect — you could call it anything you liked and still be right. You could say it was the greatest sale ever held, and make out a case. Or you could describe it as the end of the road for a lot of breeders of pure-bred livestock. And you could argue that too.

Let's take a look at both sides because the total picture is important for Prairie farmers. One thing that this year's sale proved was that Southern Alberta is first and last Hereford country. The southern ranchers were prepared to pay more money for fair Herefords than they were for good Shorthorns and Angus. Now this may not be the way some would prefer to have things. But it happens to be true.

Before the sale was held, there was a good deal of concern for fear that the huge entry, over 1,200 bulls of all breeds, would seriously depress prices. This concern deepened to something akin to alarm after the sales of Shorthorns and Angus were complete. And this had nothing to do with the prices obtained. The averages for these breeds were down, but there was certainly no collapse in prices. The prices for good herd sires were close to where one would have expected them to be.

Deep Concern

But what caused the undercurrent of apprehension that swept through the barns was the fact that quite a few good animals failed to attract the minimum bid of \$250 and had to be sent back to the barns. What would happen, everybody wondered, when the record-breaking number of Herefords started through the ring. This uneasiness was heightened by the fact that prices for commercial cattle at the stockyards

were showing no signs of becoming firm again.

At the end of the first day, when the average for the 167 Herefords sold came out to \$639, confidence was somewhat restored. The grand champion brought \$6,050; the reserve sold for \$5,500 and four others brought from \$2,000 to \$3,500. Nobody could say it hadn't been a good sale so far. Nobody, that is except a whole raft of small breeders whose bulls had gone for less than \$400. The first 15 animals sold barely averaged that figure.

The pattern of the sale was set the first day. The average for the good bulls, the ones from substantial breeders of range sires which the last couple of years would have brought say \$1,500 to \$1,800 was down about a third. What happened was this, the sale would run along with a string of \$400 to \$500 bulls, then a good herd would come in and the bidding would pick up spirit. Then it would sink again, drift along and pick up again.

This pattern convinced a lot of people that they'd buy some cheap bull on the last day of the sale. They expected that a lot of bulls would be turned back to the barn. But while prices were down at the last, rather seriously for some breeders, the expected glut never developed.

When you think of a \$600 average for 1,200 bulls, it is the sort of sale that has to be described as an outstanding success. But, and this is a very big but indeed, a man six feet tall can be drowned in a pool of water that measures an average of three feet deep. It was not a successful sale for perhaps a hundred breeders who sold their animals for little more than good steer prices. For them, the handwriting is on the wall.

During the course of the sale I talked to a lot of people, men who've been watching sales like this all over the West for a great many years. Here is the gist of their judgment:

A couple of years ago as farmers and ranchers saw the really fabulous prices that were being obtained for breeding stock, a lot of them decided to get their feet wet. Those who had any purebreds among their cow herds decided to raise a few bull calves instead of making steers automatically. Everybody started to get into the act. Well there is no doubt now that they were wrong. They'd have been a lot better off to have stayed out of the racket completely and leave this highly specialized field to the specialists.

Certainly the small piece of extra money they picked up at the Bull Sale doesn't begin to pay the extra expenses they have incurred. In fact, the living expenses for the week they

Equine Siesta



Emil Lorentson, Bindloss, Alta., sent us this shot of his horses sleeping in the sun on a warm spring day.

had to hang around Calgary will have more than eaten it up. So they know now that its usually more profitable for cobblers to stick to their lasts, and commercial cattle raisers to commercial cattle. If they profit by experience, they won't be back next year. So, for the immediate future, the best guess is that the rush will be to get out of bull raising. This year, the mediocre animals will not be permitted to grow into mediocre bulls.

At this year's sale there was a large number of American ranchers. They bought very few bulls. I talked to several of them. They said that the really top animals in Calgary would have brought higher prices in the States. The good range bulls were going at prices about equal to American prices. Those were the ones they were interested in but didn't buy because the price spread was not wide enough to make it worth while.

But when it came to the low quality stuff, we were away over priced. In short, Alberta ranchers were paying too much for the animals they were buying at the lowest prices. This, naturally, didn't apply right through the sale. Some rare bargains were picked up. One friend of mine expected to pay around \$800 or \$900 for a bull he wanted. He struck it lucky, when the sale was dragging, and bought his bull for half that price. Another had another animal picked out at around the same price. But he had to retire after the price got well into four figures.

As with all sales, there were quite a few freak prices, both around the top brackets and in the bottom brackets.

Slow Going

The sale itself dragged very badly. This, I would say, was the fault of both the auctioneers and the buyers. I happened to mention this to John Cross whose brother paid \$30,000 for a Shorthorn bull at the Perth Sale a year or so ago. How long would you think it would take to sell that bull? In Calgary it often took 10 minutes to get \$2,000 for a bull. It took

just 45 seconds to run the bid on Sandy Cross' bull from nothing to \$30,000.

I asked the American ranchers what they thought of our stock. They said the best was every bit as good as they had in the States. But they had one comment I think is worth passing along. If our breeding stock has one general weakness it is in the legs. We are, they say, far too tolerant of crooked legs, both back and front. The greatest opportunity for improving our stock is in the legs and they have our work cut out for us on that score.

I checked this opinion with some Canadian experts and they agreed a hundred per cent. As one of them said, "we've been head crazy far too long. The first thing we do is to look at the heads, then we look at depth of girth and width of back. This is all wrong. The first thing to look for is good feet and legs. The best proportioned bull in the world isn't worth a dime if he hasn't got legs that will stand up in hard usage."

Canadian Quiz

By GEOFFREY SHAWCROSS

1. Canada is exceeded in area by only two countries, which are they?
2. What part of Canada, and the southernmost point, is in the same latitude as Rome, Italy?
3. In what important lake does the depth of water nowhere exceed 23 feet?
4. Which is probably our stormiest useable lake?
5. Who was the second French governor-general of Canada?
6. Which is the largest park in Canada and, incidentally, in the whole world?
7. What is the little-known alternative name for Hudson Bay?
8. What is its approximate area and average depth?
9. Which city produces about two-thirds of Canada's pharmaceutical output?
10. How did the word "Canada" arise?

(Answers on page 48)

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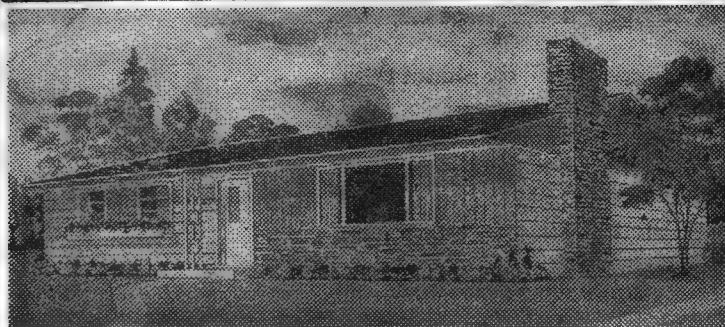
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It's the land that dictates the need for rotations

BY JOSEPH PAUL

THE benefits of growing crops in rotation have been observed and recorded in some of the earliest agricultural writings; and the good effects of legumes such as lupines, peas, clover, and alfalfa were particularly noted. About 150 years ago a French scientist, M. Decandolle, through careful observation, built up a theory regarding the way in which plants feed. He reasoned that plants absorbed the soil water which contained the things they required as food. This solution would also contain substances which the plant could not use. He concluded certain unwanted material must be returned to the soil as excretions. Different plants would have different requirements; hence the material excreted by one plant might be harmful to it but useful to a different kind of plant. Thus if plants of different kinds were grown together or in rotation, they could benefit each other in correcting the soil condition.

According to later scientists these observations regarding the good effects of rotation were correct but the theories developed to account for them have all been discredited. In 1886 Hellriegel of Germany discovered the bacteria on the roots of legumes and showed they could use nitrogen from the air. This gave a new explanation for the special value of legumes in rotation.

The increasing use of the microscope in science led to the discovery of plant diseases, and it was shown disease organisms might accumulate in the soil, making a change of crops necessary. Then it was shown plants did not have to absorb all the material contained in the soil solution, but they could absorb the compounds they needed and leave the rest behind.

These discoveries put Decandolle's theories in the discard, but they seemed to emphasize the necessity for growing different crops in rotation. However, these same lines of scientific development have provided the means of evading or postponing the use of rotations. New varieties have been bred to reduce the risks of the one-crop farmer from such things as early frost, low yields, plant diseases, and insect pests. Fertilizers have been developed to maintain the soil's productivity. Fungicides, fumigants, insecticides, and herbicides to no end, have been offered for the control of diseases, insects and weeds. The farmer is being warned more than ever before that he should not risk having "all his eggs in one basket".

But the same people who issue the warnings are helping to surround that basket with protective measures galore, including a list of agricultural chemicals that would dazzle a druggist. It is no wonder rotation of crops and diversification of the farm enterprise are more talked about than practised. This is not intended as an argument against scientific advancement. Science should be the tool of progress, but there are times when we seem to become the servants of science.

This race between science and nature, to see which will finally determine the An Old cropping practises of Idea cultivated land, is not confined to one continent. For variety consider this item from a 1951 article written for the Dow Chemical Co.: "Because economy does not allow crop rotation on the limited pineapple lands of Hawaii, soil pests soon become a very serious problem . . . so acute . . . that the cropping of these lands to pineapple would be impossible without a pre-planting soil fumigation treatment".

It is interesting to note when the methods of business and industry are introduced into farming, the path of greatest profit usually leads toward specialization; which in turn means single cropping. In the words of the pineapple interests "economy does not allow crop rotation", when it can be avoided by the addition of one more spraying, dusting, fumigation or amendment, applied to the seed, the crop, or the soil.

There may come a time when "economy does not allow" the addition of even one more item to the long programme of protective treatments or services required for single cropping. If and when that time comes, crop rotations will be used to an increasing degree.

In the meantime, everyone from the Agrologists to the Junior Chamber of Commerce will go on writing and making speeches about the "imperative necessity" for crop rotations and diversified farming. But, try as they may, they will not improve on the philosophy of Xenophon as recorded 434-355 B.C. when he wrote:

"It is ill work fighting against heaven. Certainly not by dint of sowing and planting what he himself desires will he meet the needs of life more fully than by planting and sowing what the earth herself rejoices to bear and nourish in her bosom".

Xenophon was not talking about crop rotations. He was simply proposing that crops should be chosen to fit the soil and climate. In some cases

New Pet



that would involve a rotation of crops, in other cases it might involve growing crops in combination, and in some cases it would mean planting an area down to pasture, meadow, or forest, and leaving it that way.

On the best soils of Western Canada the natural crop was a mixture of grasses. Sifting the Evidence A few other plants were mixed in and they no doubt helped to build the soil; but the great soil builders of the prairie and park land regions were the grasses. It is no accident these soils are so well adapted to the production of cereal grains, as wheat, oats, barley, and rye are all members of the grass family.

They are annual grasses but they have fibrous root systems. They add a great deal of organic matter to the soil each year, although good tillage causes a rapid use of this material.

Any attempt to improve cropping systems should be based on a deliberate consideration of present practices. How well or how poorly do they fit the district? Nothing has been gained by the "scare 'em to death" approach of the prophets of soil depletion. In many cases the propaganda passed on to the prairie farmer has been based on information from parts of the United States where inter-tilled crops such as cotton, tobacco, vegetables, and fruit, have been grown continuously.

There, in many places, fields have been cultivated intensively

on slopes too steep for anything but a forest or grass cover, and where the land is exposed to a heavy rainfall. Even there you will find people who, by resourceful diligence, have kept their fields productive in spite of every difficulty, thus showing what can be accomplished by a master craftsman. On the other hand, even pasture and forest land can be misused. Such lands contained two-thirds of the area affected by erosion in the United States according to figures presented in 1938.

While the experiences described above are no guide to the prairie farmer, they will be followed with more concern by farmers the gray wooded soils. There the case for crop rotation has been clearly demonstrated by experiments such as the Breton plots in Alberta, established by the late Dr. F. A. Wyatt. The results of these tests have been confirmed by the experience of thousands of farmers.

For other conditions of soil and climate it seems more difficult to establish a case for any great change in cropping practices, but the continuation of this discussion will be left to another issue.

The average Canadian worker can purchase more milk and butter for each hour's earnings today than he could in 1939. In the case of milk he can now buy over six quarts as against 3.85 quarts pre-war and in the case of butter 1 3/4 pounds as compared with less than 1 1/2 pounds.

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dug in the previous fall. Tubers are best started indoors using the peat and sand mixture as advised for the Cannas.

They are best planted shallow, potting them into five-inch pots when two or three leaves have formed. The tubers require careful watering when first planted. Overwatering will result in rotting. Tuberous Begonias enjoy partial shade but should not be planted where there is danger of drip from overhanging trees or shrubs. The blooms are fragile so a sheltered spot must be found where wind will not damage them.

Gloxinias

These beautiful trumpet-shaped flowers are grown as house plants or as subjects to furnish the sunporch or veranda. The general culture is much the same as outlined for Begonias. Care must be taken not to splash water on the leaves especially when the sun is shining on the plant or the foliage will be marred by spots. An east window will suit these plants very well. Strong sunlight must be guarded against. When the first flower buds appear, the plants will benefit from a teaspoonful of Vigoro scattered over the surface of the pot and watered in.

Seasonable Hints

Early Vegetable Crops — The importance of early sowing cannot be over emphasized. Cool weather crops such as peas, parsnips, onions, lettuce may be safely sown as soon as the land is dried sufficiently to allow comfortable working.

Peas — The smooth seeded varieties such as Alaska should be sown first followed by such varieties as Little Marvel, Laxton's Progress and Lincoln. Sow the seed about two inches deep in rows about 2 feet wide, spacing the seeds an inch or so apart. Late sowings of peas will germinate quicker if steeped in water overnight, but this practice is not recommended for the early sowings.

Parsnips — Use new seed for this crop as the life of parsnip seed is of short duration. The half-long variety is easier to harvest than the long-rooted kinds. It is a wise plan to mix a little radish seed with the parsnip in order to mark the rows as parsnip seed is slow germinating.

Onions — In the past the predations of the onion maggot have made onion growing hazardous. However, now there is a satisfactory means of control. The onion seed should be placed in a cotton bag and steeped in water for a few moments, allowed to drain and mixed with equal weight of D.D.T. (wettable 50%). The treated seed is then sown immediately.

When the seedlings are an inch or so high, they should be watered with a solution of D.D.T. (2 level teaspoonsful per gallon of water) at ten-day intervals. Three or four applications will give control.

Transplanted onion seedlings

can be set out in late May or early June. These will develop into large bulbs by the end of the summer if the cultivation has been good. There is little danger of these plants being attacked by onion maggot.

Lettuce

No salad plant is more eagerly awaited than lettuce. Sow the seed of leaf varieties as soon as the soil is dry enough to work. The seedlings are allowed to grow without thinning until ready for use. Head lettuce should be sown early too, but requires thinning as soon as the plants are large enough to handle. Six to nine inches apart is a suitable distance for most varieties of head lettuce.

Heated Frames

To get the best results from heated frames, the sash should be placed in position and the heat turned on now. In a week or so the soil will have warmed up so that seed may be sown directly into the frame of boxes of seedlings previously sown indoors may be transplanted to the heated frame. Lettuce and radish can be readily produced in these frames and will be usable two or three weeks ahead of the outside-grown crop. Careful attention to watering and ventilating must be given, raising the sash on sunny days before the sun heat has made conditions uncomfortable for the plants. It is good practice to close the frame in early afternoon to conserve the sun heat.

A simple method of heating a small frame is to install one 250 watt heat lamp to each 20 square feet of frame area. If the plant frame is well constructed with the sash fitting tightly there is no danger of frost getting in. The lights are turned on about sundown except when the weather is stormy, then it is necessary to keep the lights on day and night.

New vegetable varieties developed and introduced by the Experimental Station, Morden:

Tomatoes — Meteor — This is an open pollinated variety, bush-type tomato, medium sized, smooth, which ripens a few days ahead of Bounty.

Mustag — Is a hybrid, early variety of good quality and high yield.

Monarch — Is a large fruited variety. Individual fruits weigh 56 ounces; quality is excellent; plants are healthy. One of the best slicing tomatoes.

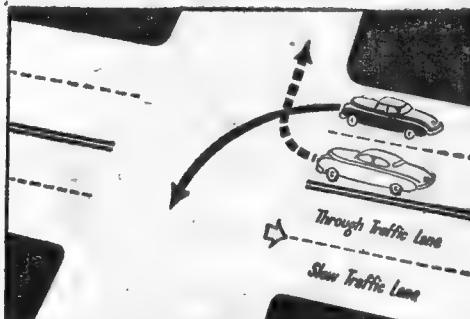
Peas — Tiny Tim — This variety is extremely dwarf in habit. Pods contain 5 or 6 peas of good color and flavor. Plants are wind and drought resistant. Tiny Tim is useful where space is limited.

Cabbage — Morden Midget is a dwarf cabbage that produces small heads very early in the season. It stands without splitting, so that there is no waste. Seed sown outdoors will produce heads in late July. Transplanted seedlings will be ready for use by the first week of July in favorable seasons.

—A HELPFUL HINT ON CITY DRIVING—

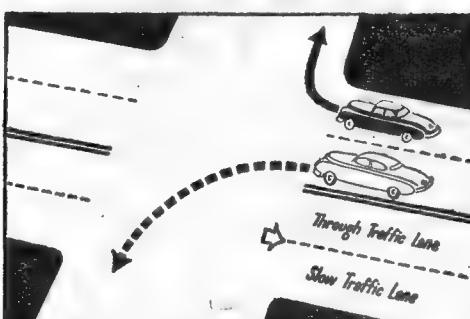
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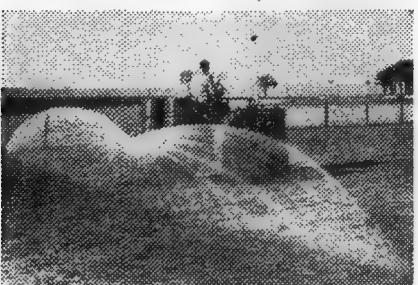
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The happiest garden ornament—a Purple Martin box

By KERRY WOOD

A GOOD friend of mine phones me every April 28th and happily announces: "They're back!"

Twenty years ago this gentleman became a Purple Martin fan, and his garden has three good Martin boxes decoratively poked skywards above the flowering shrubbery and fruit trees. As April advances, great excitement prevails around his home. He uncovers the openings of each Martin room, makes sure that they are clean, repaints the worn boxes and checks again the stout 4 by 4 posts which hold the large ten-roomed houses aloft.

Towards the end of the month he is out in the garden every morning at dawn, scanning the skies for the black silhouette of a flying Martin and listening eagerly for the pleasant musical call of the birds as they swoop down from the blue sky and alight on the waiting homes. When that happens, usually on the 28th or 29th of April in our district, this joyous man rushes to the phone and dials more than a dozen friends who share his enthusiasm for the graceful black swallows. It is a real thrill to hear his happy shout: "They're back!"

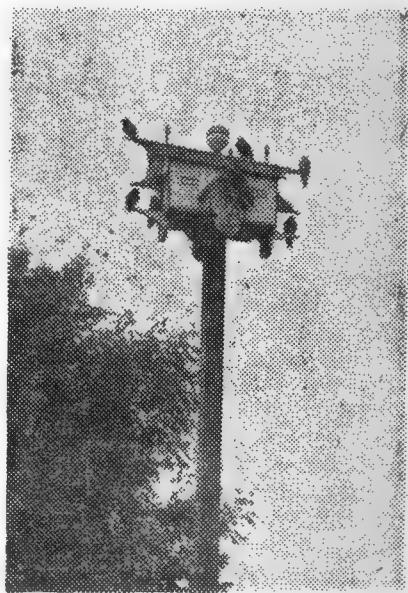
I know of no other single item of bird attracting devices that yields such a continuous dividend of pleasure and interest as a multiple-roomed Purple Martin nesting box occupied by a thriving colony. Such a variety of metallic chirps and gurgling undertones, such a strident outcry of alarm as the whole adult colony wings aloft to drive off a passing crow or an innocent hawk, and such a thrill to watch their arrowed bodies in flight as they swoop and soar hundreds of feet above the earth to seek their favorite food: mating mosquitoes.

Great Visitors

They love to sit on perches around their homes, uttering musical notes that actually sound like bird-conversation. They visit with other colonies established nearby and take a delight in poking their heads into nest rooms to inspect each others' eggs or young. They are the happiest of social nesters, and that happiness infects the humans who have put up the colony boxes and may watch the Martins at work and play all summer long.

Many Western Canadians call the much smaller Tree Swallows by the Martin name. The Tree Swallow has an iridescent green-black back and a pure white breast plumage, the bird measuring 5½ inches overall. Purple Martins are 8-inch birds, while in the air the birds of both sexes look all black. When seen on a perch in full sunlight, the

glossy feathered male displays a purple sheen on the head, back, and breast. The female isn't so glossy on head or back, and has a brownish-streaked and light-colored breast. Instead of the soft twitterings of Tree Swallows, Purple Martins have an amazing repertoire of



Here's a family of purple martins at home in their martin-house.

strident calls, loud and happy notes to attract attention of passing Martins, with a truly delightful assortment of chirrings and gurglings in a minor key that never fail to charm the ears of bird students.

Takes Time

It may take two or three years to get a colony established, but it is well worth the patience and effort. First, build or buy a proper sized Martin box. For best results, make it a box containing at least ten rooms. Each room should measure 8 by 8 inches in floor space and have 6 inches of head room, with an entrance hole of 2½ inches placed 1½ inches up from the floor. Because of the large entrance holes, there must be wide eaves and overhanging gables to protect the birds from rain. Some box-builders make doubly sure of giving the birds rain-protection by putting small perch-like roofs above every entrance hole in the box, in addition to the wide-eaved roof covering the whole house.

Here's How

The Martin box should be placed on top of a sturdy post measuring at least 12 feet high; for best results locate the box out in the open garden or above a wide lawn. Place several perches on every box, to accommodate the sociable birds when they sit around and sun themselves. Sometimes a visiting colony will occupy every perch on the house: for example, I have seen more than twenty birds sitting on perches adorning a six-roomed Martin Box set in our garden, with the

brooding females poking their heads out of each of the six rooms and chirping at the visitors in friendly fashion.

The box may be built of $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch plyboard if tightly constructed. I prefer the heavier $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch lumber because of its weather-insulation qualities, using the thin plyboard inside to separate the rooms. In Alberta, dynamite boxes discarded by seismograph crews can be nicely divided into four-roomed Martin boxes; three tiers of the dove-tailed dynamite boxes provide a twelve-roomed colony mouse. The roof needs special attention to make it leak-proof, as wet chills will kill young fledglings. Some builders use roofing rubberoid on boxes, while I always seal the roof-ridge with an over-cap of a two-inch perching board.

Cat-Proof

Every box must be cat-proofed, which means putting a wrap of tin on the supporting post. This prevents cats from climbing up to the box and inserting their clawed paws into the wide holes to extract and kill the fledglings.

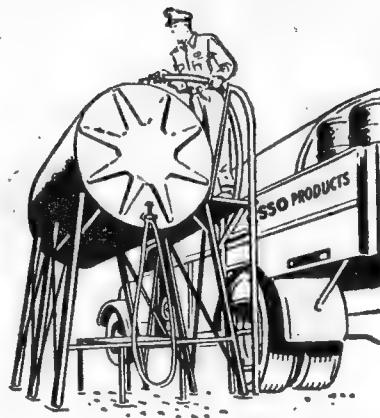
English or House Sparrows are another nuisance around Martin Boxes. You may use a sparrow trap to rid your premises of pest birds, or employ a .22 rifle loaded with dust-shot to eliminate persistent sparrow nest-robbers. Now that European Starlings have invaded Western Canada in large numbers, we'll have to make special efforts to keep them out of Purple Martin boxes.

Your new box may not attract Martin tenants the first year, unless you live in a well-populated Purple Martin region. But if you are near one of their flyways, soon or late a few birds will swoop down and investigate the colony home. My first boxes were ignored for two years, then a single pair took up residence, with four pairs established the following year and finally more than a dozen pairs living in two boxes.

I've never had a twenty-roomed tenement house for Martins, but this very night I hope to go down the basement and start work on such a box. Now is the time to build bird boxes: for bluebirds, tree swallows, wrens and chickadees as well as Martins. And if you are lucky enough to get Purple Martins established this spring, you'll become as keen a booster for the beautiful and friendly swallows as my friend who phones me jubilantly every April to announce:

"They're back!"

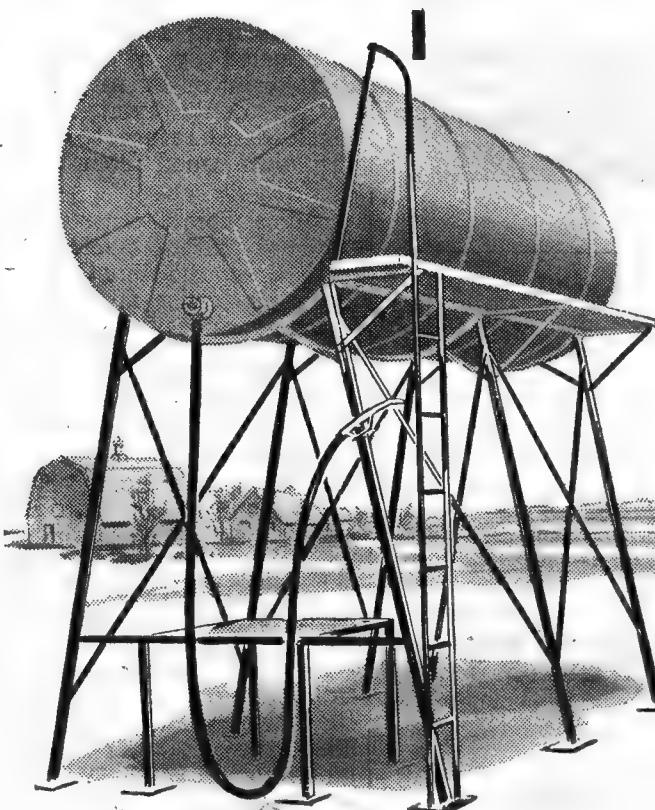
WE GRUMBLE about taxes now, but we would grumble just as much if they were half what they are, and we couldn't grumble any more if they were twice as much — which is what they will probably be. — Lake Mills Graphic.



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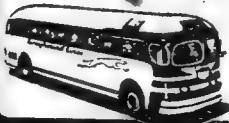
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Over the River



This interesting shot of a herd of horses crossing the Red Deer river was taken last year by Richard Harrington.

What can we do with a faithfull old team?

By KATHERINE HOWARD

WITH the coming of mechanized equipment to the farm, a most perplexing question arises. A burning question it is, too, which tugs at the heart strings of a great many of us. The question is, what shall we do with the old team of horses?

Now they have outlived their usefulness, there is no doubt of that. We use tractors to plow and cultivate the land in the spring, and pull the seeder when we are ready to sow the grain. The combine cuts and threshes the grain in the fall, in one operation, and the truck hauls it away.

Our homes are kept warm by coal or oil heaters, our old wood-burning range has been superseded by a propane gas stove or an oil-burning one, and so we don't even need old Blackie and Prince to haul out any more wood from the bush for fuel.

Never were there such times for that pair of black Percherons! From the time they scrape away the snow from the first green grass of spring, in the low pasture field, until that day in fall when snow finally comes again to signify winter, the horses lead a halcyon existence.

"We'll have to get rid of those horses," emphatically declares the lady of the house, as Blackie and Prince, leaning nonchalantly against the garden fence, nibble delicately at the young leaves of the newly set out lilac bushes. "Get away from there, you!" With her apron, she shooes the team of blacks away, and they wander off, but not far. Then they stand, the sunshine gleaming on their satiny coats, looking amiably at her.

She opens the gate and takes a step towards them, whereupon they march towards her, affection in every beam of their bright eyes. She looks at them and her exasperated gaze softens.

"All right," she says, "You spoilt babies!" She goes into the house emerging with a bowl of apple and potato peels, which she throws onto the short grass outside the fence. "There you are, then, you old pets, but leave my lilacs alone, can't you?"

That's the trouble. They are pets. You have raised that team from colts, and they have served you well. Now what are you going to do with them? You don't need them any more.

"We can't afford to keep a big team doing nothing," says the man of the house, "that's crazy!" He shakes his head and looks rather fiercely at his children.

"They don't eat much," says the youngest boy. "Old Prince is a real light eater, Dad." His anxious eyes regard his father apprehensively, but the elder lad just grins.

"Guess we can find something for them to do to earn their keep," he says, and his eyes sparkle as he sees his father's frown disappear.

"Guess we could, at that," says his father. "We might get a few logs from the bush this winter. Might get 'em sawed into lumber . . ."

He is quite well aware, as are his children, that, come winter, those horses will mooch around the barnyard, range over the snow-covered fields, poke inquisitive noses over the fence into the house yard, and follow anyone who goes out carrying a pail, even to the coal shed and back again.

But what is the alternative? Either you have a couple of star boarders in the shape of a beloved old team of horses, or you sell them. And no one wants to buy horses, except people who raise mink or foxes. Everyone in the family is horror-stricken. Sell Blackie and Prince for meals for nasty mink! Gloom descends on all at the thought.

"If I knew somebody who wanted a team and would treat them properly," says the head of the house.

"Yes . . . but . . ." eagerly comes from the youngest, "You don't know, Dad, that's the trouble. Blackie and Prince . . . they, they're like . . . people . . . they . . ." His voice trails off and he looks as if he is fighting his tears.

"All right," says his father. "We'll forget it for just now," and the problem remains unsolved. It is so hard to decide. Even if horses were in great demand and bringing a high price, it would be hard enough to part with them. But when the cash value is so low, and their sentimental value so high, it remains an issue to be avoided if at all possible.

They mean so much to you, that old team. They have worked so hard and so faithfully for you. You remember crises you have come through together—the time of the flood when they plunged into raging waters and carried you and your family in the old wagon to safety. You remember the golden days of harvest time through the years. How patiently they pulled the rack of sheaves and took their places beside the throbber threshing machine, obedient to your slightest word.

You think how the children learnt to ride on their broad and gentle backs, and how the old team pulled the sleigh through the deep snowdrifts, to take the kids to school. You remember countless incidents, sad and happy, tragic and comic, connected with old Prince and Blackie. They are a part of your life, a vital part of your success on the farm. The horses will come and follow you or the children whenever they see you. They have implicit faith and trust in you.

You sigh heavily. Now if only some nice, kind young fellow who might be starting out homesteading, would like a team of . . . Then you are brought up short! Well, after all, Prince and Blackie aren't as young as they might be. Those years in which they served you and which you spent together, add up to quite a few.

You may as well face it. The only person who might want the team would be somebody who intended to make mink or fox meat of them, or some character who would buy them for the work he could get out of them before they got too old and decrepit.

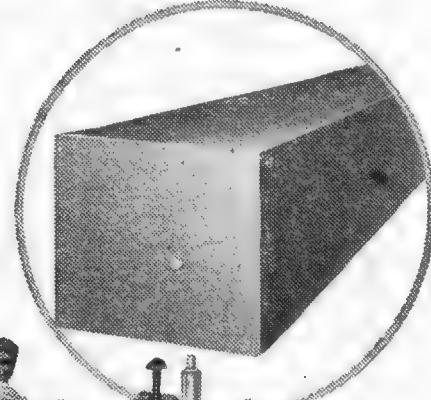
Their happy mien denotes their own familiar place. They come close to you, and Prince nuzzles you with his soft nose, while Blackie looks at you with confident eyes. And then, suddenly, you come to your decision.

Perhaps you're crazy, you tell yourself; certainly you are woefully sentimental, but as long as you have the farm and the old team lives, here is where they'll stay.

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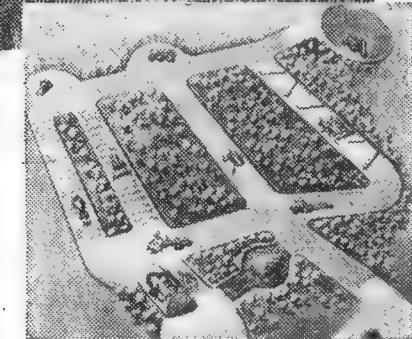
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FROM COAST TO COAST MASSEY-HARRIS OFFERS MOST



PLAYING cards might have been introduced into Europe over six hundred years ago, either by returning Crusaders from the Holy Land or through trade with the Moors and Saracens of Northern Africa. An old Italian chronicler, writing in A.D. 1379, asserted that the card game was started in Viterbo (central Italy) by people who had been to "Saraceland" where it was called naib.

Another theory is that playing cards were introduced into Spain by the invading Arabs, for divination purposes.

Dr. Willshire, regarded as a leading authority on the matter, states in his work "Catalogue of Playing Cards in the British Museum" (1876), that playing cards were invented in Venice, which, in medieval times, was a great Imperial and wartime power.

At first cards were hand painted and three packs in gold and other colors, the whole richly ornamented, cost over \$500. Later the art of engraving and, more especially the invention of printing in the fifteenth century, enabled cards to be produced more cheaply and in far greater quantities with the result that the price fell considerably, and the game became popular with the educated middle classes also.

For decades, the city of Ulm, Germany, was one of the chief centers of the card-making industry.

The cards we play with have a romantic history

By GEOFFREY SHAWCROSS

Emigration naturally spread card playing to North and South America, Australia, and South Africa.

Outlawed

Towards the close of the 14th century card playing became so popular in the French capital that the Provost of Paris promulgated a decree forbidding the people from playing cards and certain other games because (1) that indoor pursuit was causing too much absenteeism from work, and (2) many losers took to larceny and other

crimes to pay their gambling debts.

Decades later Edward IV of England prohibited the importation of foreign playing cards because, in his view, such buying was harmful to the English card trade. He also wished to restrict this game for reasons similar to those in Paris.

Cards began to be made in Germany about 1400, in Italy about 1425, but not till 1463 or so in England. There were generally four suits in Germany called hearts, bells, leaves and

Down the hole

A NUMBER of years ago, in the horse-and-buggy days, a traveller was making his way through the country selling his goods; when twilight drew near, he thought he'd ask at the next farm house if he could stop overnight. The farmer said, yes, they'd be glad to have him spend the night with them, so he put his horse in the barn. They had supper and spent the evening talking. When bedtime drew near, the farmer's wife went upstairs to make up his bed. These people had a large

hole in the ceiling for the warmth to go upstairs. The lady thought the room was warm enough, so she threw a rug over the hole. The next morning, when the man awoke, he heard the clatter of dishes downstairs. He didn't want to step on the cold floor, so he jumped on the rug, went right through and landed on the breakfast table with all the family sitting around it. The family got such a shock the one girl fainted. The traveller scrambled off the table on all four, back upstairs, even forgetting his apologies.

Mrs. Ed. Schmidt.
Huggett, Alta.

acorns. In Italy, however, they were termed swards, batons, cups and money.

The variety used in English-speaking countries was adopted in France in the 16th century.

Edgar Wallace, the world-famous writer of detective stories who died at Hollywood in 1932, was once in such reduced circumstances after hastily quitting a \$10,000 editorship in South Africa, where he was heavily in debt, that he tried to improve his falling fortunes by card playing during the voyage home to England with his wife and child. He lost virtually the whole of the \$400 he possessed and on reaching Southampton had only six shillings (then 1½ dollars) left. He pawned his watch and chain for \$10, took his family to a boarding house which did not require advance payment for the three, and a day or two later obtained a reportership on the "Daily Mail" (to whom he had sent 'South African copy) at \$3,000 a year the obliging editor (without question) paid him a month's salary in advance.

Fairly recently, Farouk when King of Egypt, amused a press representative by stating that the time would come when there would be five kings only in the world, namely, the King of England (George VI was then living of course) and four kings of a pack of cards.

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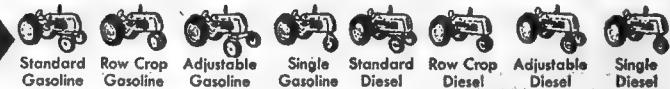
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ALBERTA

Futurity contests are a big step forward

BY GRANT MacEWAN

PRACTICAL cattlemen are beginning to ask for something more than ordinary show-yard placings on breeding animals. Too often the bull or heifer that won as a calf failed to be imposing as a yearling or two-year-old; too often the calf winner has been too small at maturity. The recent interest in futurity classes is a reflection of a growing need for more performance data.

The manner in which a bovine grows and develops coupled with its ultimate performance as a parent, is certainly more important than its show-ring achievement as a calf or yearling. No matter how compact and attractive the young animal may be, the breeder or prospective purchaser has a right to enquire, silently or otherwise, about probable rate of growth, size at maturity, economy of gains, robustness, milking qualities in the strain and genetic tendencies in point of productivity in the breeding pen. And one might very well add to that list, those inherited qualities that determine meat cutting values.

Breeders of dairy cattle have accepted the necessity of performance testing and the weighing and testing of milk has become an almost universal practice where pure-bred herds are concerned. Advanced Registry for breeding pigs, in the course of which representative progeny are slaughtered and subjected to carcass measurements, is seen as a necessary step in progressive improvement policies. Performance tests for beef cattle are presently under study in Canada and United States and it may be expected that owners of pure-bred herds will be invited shortly to submit progeny samples.

Futurity classes are not to be considered as substitutes for well planned performance tests but they have something to offer in connection with the development of young cattle and when Edmonton staged big competitions in this field, recently, it was the first time that such a program had been conducted in the Province of Alberta. Brandon Winter Fair has had futurity classes for breeding beef cattle and years ago, horsemen conducted the first of such competitions in the West.

The first western futurity classes of which there is record were held at Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition in 1913; it was the Percheron Futurity. Lethbridge had the same Percheron Futurity in 1914 and Edmonton, now futurity conscious, had it in 1915.

The Edmonton Futurity classes for all three beef breeds, Herefords, Shorthorns and Aberdeen-Angus, were to have

But the Alberta associations lost none of their interest in such classes and at the Edmonton show just completed, close to a hundred young cattle of the two sexes and three breeds were presented before the judges to make Alberta's first Futurity Show a fine success. These cattle had been nominated months in advance of the show and the nature of the classes seemed to emphasize such qualities as growthiness, breed character and good feet and legs; quite obviously the judges were not looking for a high degree of fitting.

A feature of the Futurity Show was the inter-breed championship principle for both males and females. The supreme championships were decided by independent decisions from five judges while a large and enthusiastic audience followed the results. In this climax show, the radio station CJCA trophy offered for the supreme bull championship was awarded to E. G. Garner & Sons, High River, on their Hereford calf, Pekalta Return, born in May, 1952, while the reserve championship went to T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail, on his Shorthorn, Rannoch Brigadier. The inter-breed championship for females which carried the Quaker Oats Company trophy, was won by the thick Shorthorn heifer, Melbar Maxine Jewel, by Killearn, Max William, and owned by William Melnyk & Sons, Chipman. T. G. Hamilton had the reserve grand for females on Rannoch Maxine Duchess 2nd.

Now, why not Futurity classes for steers? They would be an innovation; they would be simple enough to organize and they could be most progressive and useful. They would serve to focus attention upon those economic fundamentals in beef production, rate of gain, rapidity in taking on marketable finish and so on. These are characteristics which will be measured at considerably higher cost in the newer performance testing for which plans are being drawn. The qualities under consideration are hereditary and contests such as are now proposed would offer an economical basis for assessing performance and making comparisons. The wise grower would have no difficulty in knowing how to interpret the information.

Futurity classes for steers should be open to exhibitors of

pure breeds and grades alike. In either case, the entries would represent their sires as much as their owners.

How would such competitions be organized? The nominations would be made in the early autumn, prior to the usual fattening season and the nominees would make their first show-ring appearance soon after, probably at the Fall Show at the same point at which they would be exhibited at the following Spring Show as finished market cattle.

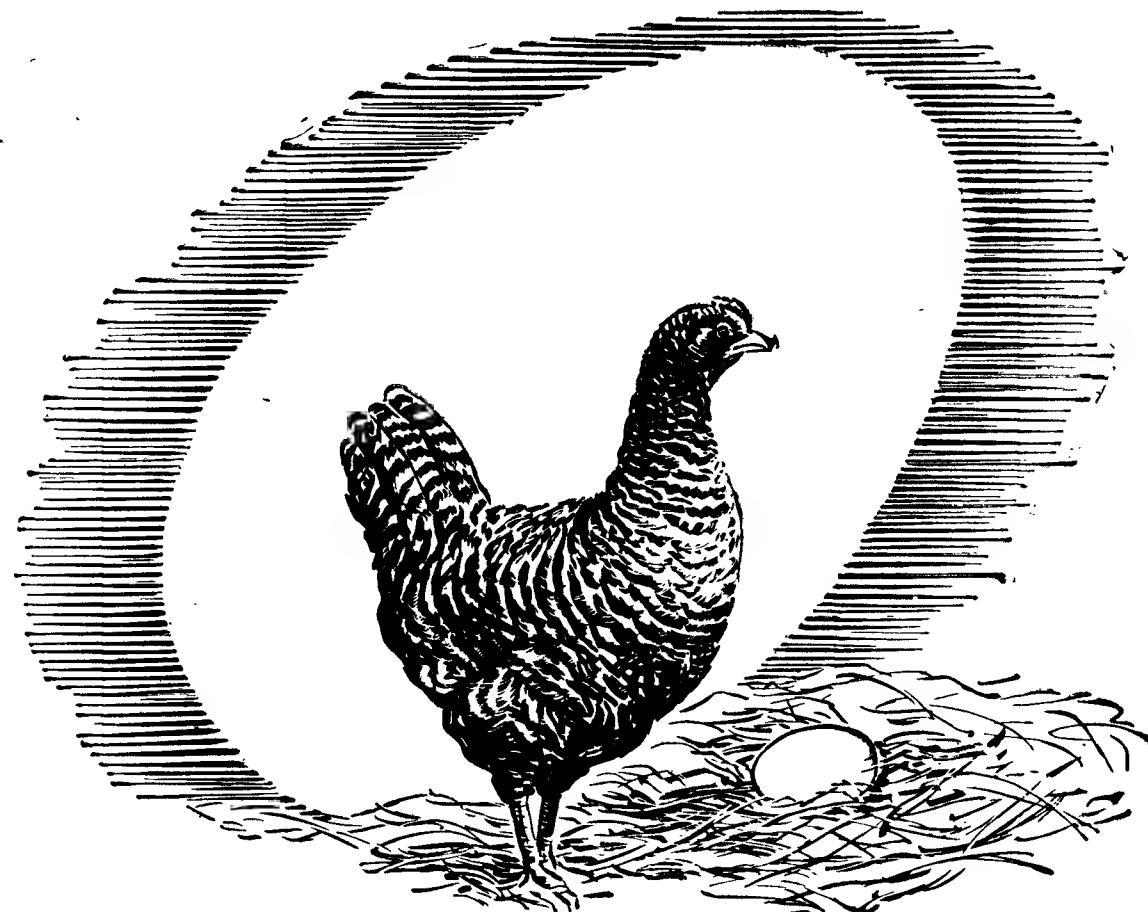
If there were sufficient interest or demand, there might be two classes at that Fall Show, one for weaners that would return in the spring as fed calves or baby beef and the other for long yearlings that would return at two years of age. In any case, the autumn competitions would be for "feeder cattle" and the spring contests for "finished cattle".

While prizes awarded at the autumn competition would be strictly on the basis of feeder conformation, feeder fleshing and quality, an essential part of the program at that time, would consist of confirming identification by tattoo and making an official weighing of each individual. The competition cattle would then return to their home farms to be fattened in preparation for the final contests.

That spring-time showing of fattened cattle could then take the form of one, two or wide three contests. If three, then one would be for rate of gain as determined by the second official weighing on a specified day; the second would be the judging of the class in orthodox fashion with new interest in changes in placing compared to the fall show, and finally, a carcass contest.

Alternative plans could be worked out to combine these or eliminate parts. The carcass contest, though intensely educational, could be dropped if arrangements for handling it were impracticable. If a single abattoir were to buy all the competition cattle, the judging of the carcasses in the plant cool-rooms should not present difficult problems. A fascinating possibility would be to weigh rate of gains, class and carcass scores together in some manner to represent a single grand competition.

Certainly it would demand somewhat more planning than the traditional type of single-appearance steer shows. But the extra work need not be forbidding and the informational value should make futurity classes for steers a real challenge at this time when cattlemen are thinking about performance testing. Moreover, those classes could be Spring Show features and those exhibition associations that conduct both autumn and spring shows could be in the forefront in service to the cattlemen.



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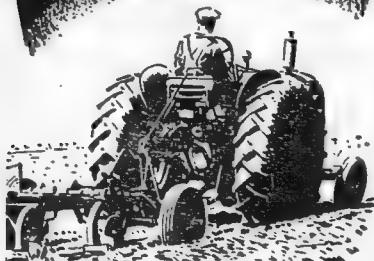
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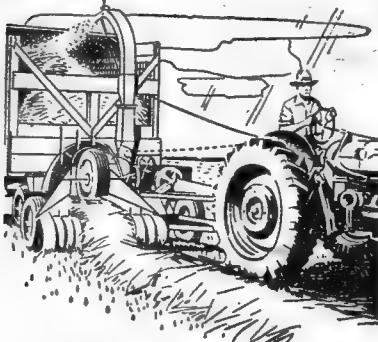
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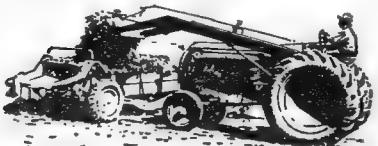
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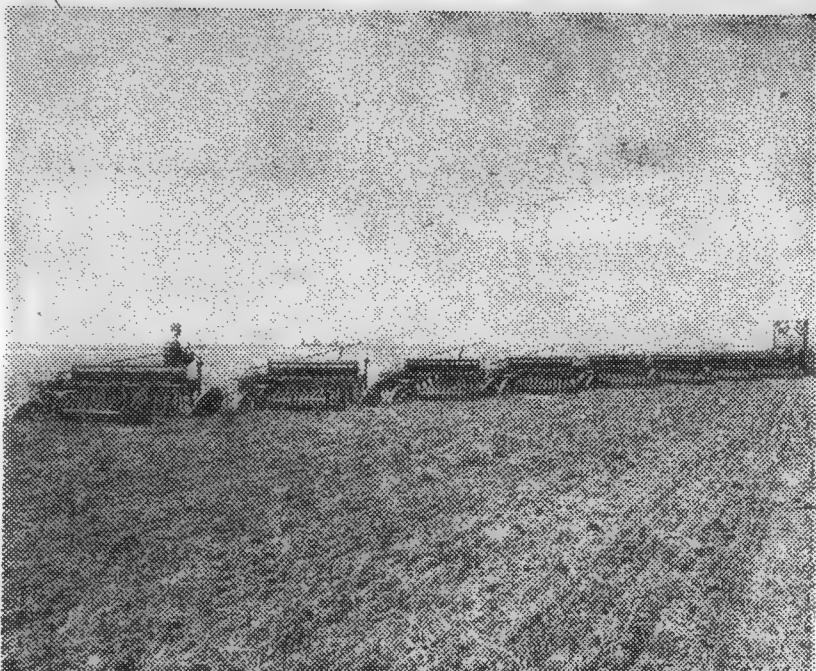
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Big Hitch



This shot of seeding in a big way was taken on the farm of O. B. Lassiter at Chin, Alta.

When Uncle Pete came home turmoil came, too

By HARRY J. BOYLE

IT was a shivering night in mid-December. The snow pelted against the front windows of the general store which my folks operated in conjunction with a farm in Western Ontario. I huddled beside the big stove. My mother kept peeking out anxiously to see if there was any sign of my father who had gone down the road to do the chores in the barn.

The gas lantern hissed, casting a cold, white radiance around the cluttered store. Mother pretended to be busy doing up sugar in five-pound parcels, but I knew she was worried. There was a sound of sleigh bells.

"Sounds like the Jenkins bells. Maybe he brought the mail from the station."

The front, storm door opened and then the bell jangled as the inside door opened and a man wearing a black fur hat, a coon skin coat and a grin behind an imposing, white moustache burst upon us. He paused dramatically and then pointed a finger at my mother.

"Mary . . . it's Mary! I'll bet you don't know who I am."

My mother, a timid soul at any time cringed.

"I . . . I . . . don't really know!"

"I am your Uncle Peter!"

The fabulous Uncle Peter had returned, brother of my maternal grandfather who had calmly walked out of school when he was twelve years of age and had never returned from that time on.

"It's fifty-eight years ago since I left here. I recognized you because you looked like my mother. Is this your boy?"

From then on, our household was in a constant state of turmoil. Uncle Pete had returned with four trunks containing a fabulous array of suits and

coats and hats. He wore a new tie every day. His shoes were handmade with fancy stitching. He was up at the crack of dawn, employing Ed. Jenkins to drive him all over the community.

Pete was fabulous and in no time at all he was famous. Our store was jammed every night by the farmers of the neighborhood. Each one had an excuse for tobacco or sugar or tea but business was certainly booming.

The old gentleman with the ruddy face and the fierce, white moustache and the reddish hair that swept up as if he were continually walking into a wind was a champion story teller. Ushered off to bed by my mother I would crouch over the grating that was the outlet for the hot-air pipe from the stove in the store. It carried his words perfectly.

I heard about Indians in the badlands, the Redwood stands of the California coast, the Klondyke gold rush and the cattle trails. Pete had known all the badmen of the West. He would sing verses of strange, old ballads and tell stories that sent the shivers jiggling on my backbone. I would stay there glued until I heard my mother coming upstairs to go to bed. Long after we normally closed the store there would be the sound of his voice as he rattled off the strange stories.

He had money for every errand I did for him. He sponsored a dance in the church hall and made a speech about how happy he was to be back. He apologized for not coming sooner but said that he had been so busy making money he hadn't had time. He was making amends to his relatives and friends.

He went to every dance in the community and said out-

rageously flattering compliments to the Widow Maguire. She was certain that she had hooked him, and the postmaster squinting at her order when she went to get a money order for the mail-order house saw that she was ordering a veil.

Souvenirs

He showed me how to box and displayed a set of medals he had won as a boxer in the United States Army. He gave me a brass bound telescope which he had used as an apprentice seaman. He had tintypes of girls in Hawaii and disclosed wounds he once received in a battle for the favors of a South Sea maiden.

He gave the church three hundred dollars for a memorial window for his parents. When the poorest family around had a child born with a deformity he insisted on paying for an operation in the city. He made our Christmas a sort of fairyland of unreality with a shower of the most unusual gifts I have ever seen. They made the usual knitted socks, mitts and scarves look very drab.

He announced one day that his business was calling him back to Western Canada. He was afraid his ranch wasn't being operated properly and his lawyer was mismanaging his investments. Before he left he gave my mother a beautiful ring, saying that his wife who was dead, had cherished it, and he knew she would want my mother to have it.

He vanished from our lives leaving a vacuum of loneliness in his wake. My mother wrote to him several times but she received only one answer. Later we read in the newspaper that he was dead. Most of the relatives waited expectantly for mention in his will. Nothing happened.

A few years ago when I was in Alberta I decided to trace him down. In the small village which he named his home I found that he had disposed of all his small possessions, bought up a wardrobe and a fortune in presents in Calgary and headed East. When he returned four months later he had entered his name for a pension.

I never told my mother. To this day she looks at the ring with a strange, far away look and says, "I remember when my Uncle Pete was here in . . ."

When a big man creates a legend it's a small man who dares to shatter it.



"The field sure is nice and clean, maybe that's the scrub team."

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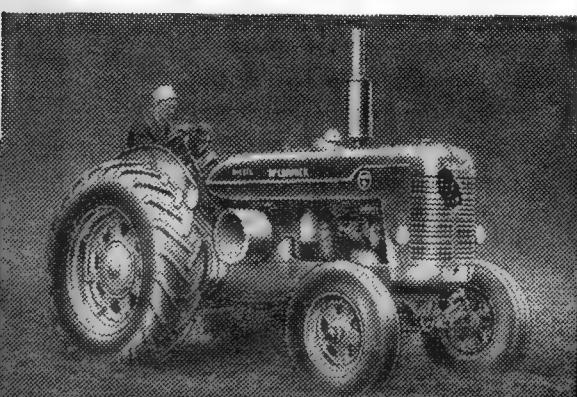
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Mountain Lake



It's annual meeting time for farmers in B.C.

By TOM LEACH

RIGHT after Christmas and hard on the heels of the New Year, most farm organizations get together for their annual meetings. In British Columbia the pace is set by the Fruit Growers' Association. Their's is usually the first meeting to review the operations of the past year and to lay plans for the following twelve months.

Meetings of the two large dairy co-operatives operating respectively in the Okanagan and the Fraser Valley follow a few weeks later and delegates who represent various divisions of the poultry industry are next to attract the farmers' attention.

Those four large conclaves are interspersed with annual gatherings of smaller groups represented by breeder associations and local clubs.

Big Crowds

This year the meetings were attracting a larger number of farmers than usual. New faces appeared in the audience and new voices were heard, although the majority of those who had not been in the habit of attending their organization's annual meeting were content to sit back and listen.

A conflict of opinions was inevitable when the subject of milk price control was brought forward at the annual get-together of shippers to the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association. That subject has flared up repeatedly among dairymen at the coast and was brought out into the open once again this year by the announcement made by the Honorable Kenneth Kiernan, minister of agriculture, that price controls would be dropped by the B.C. Milk Board with the exception of prices for fluid milk paid to the producer.

A solution to the milk price

problem has been a worry to the dairy industry for many years in the Fraser Valley. They have seen different schemes brought forward. Some have been tried but in actual practice they never work just the way they are put down on paper. That holds true of the present arrangement whereby a Milk Board established by the former government under the B.C. Public Utilities Act, sets a price for milk to the farmer, directs the operations of the dairies who handle the milk and lists the prices at which milk may be sold at the wholesale and retail level.

Despite the arguments at the Fraser Valley meeting that only producer prices are important, the members voted with a large majority to ask for a continuation of the present plan to control prices even if a store differential must be agreed upon. expressed by directors of the Co-operative that it is only since the B.C. Milk Board was established that the industry has had any feeling of stability in the fluid milk market.

Long Trip

By now the individual members of the B.C. Fruit Growers' Association will also know what transpired at their annual meeting. Because of distance and accommodation it is impossible for them, like the dairy farmers of the Fraser Valley, to attend the annual meeting personally. Although a few orchardists from the area near the official meeting center take advantage of their location to visit the meeting, the discussion and handling of the business of the fruit industry is left almost entirely in the hands of delegates.

Locals of the B.C.F.G.A. are established throughout the Okanagan regions. They elect delegates in proportion to their membership. Questions which

are apt to arise at the annual meeting are brought before the local, discussed, and frequently the delegate is instructed how he should vote upon a specific resolution.

They are in a position to do this because of the thorough method they use in organizing for their annual meeting. The secretary is in touch with all local groups before the end of November. He requests that all resolutions for the annual meeting be sent to him by early December. Copies of all resolutions are made and sent to each local. They have a full month to meet and discuss each resolution from other locals before the delegate attends the annual convention.

The system has a further advantage the fruit growers claim. A great deal of unrelated discussion is eliminated when their resolutions are brought before the meeting. The fact that they may deal with 80 resolutions at their meeting in addition to reports of many committees and addresses on topics of importance to the farmer is proof of their success with this plan of operation.

Lot of Worry

The fruit growers faced with prospects of a larger crop next season were wondering how increased freight rates, a diminishing export market, a higher cost for labor in the orchard and packing plants, topped by competition from United States growers, would leave them at the end of the year.

While other sections of the B.C. farming industry reviewed a fairly satisfactory year the B.C. Poultry Industries Council was given a story of poor returns, reduced flocks, and empty houses. It was the old story of a good year or two enticing many hopeful ones into production. But instead of finding a business of quick and high returns they provided the few extra eggs and the additional poultry meat which was labelled surplus, and caused the market to weaken to the point of no returns for many and for numbers of new producers, a loss.

Poor Returns

The turkey breeders shared in the poor returns of those in the egg business. They blamed part of their troubles to what they termed "erroneous reports" of the number of turkeys available for the Christmas trade. "At no time", said the speaker, "was there a surplus of B.C. raised turkeys on the market."

But, while last year was described as a difficult period, the outlook for the poultry farmer operating in 1953 was promising. The general opinion expressed by the speakers was that egg prices will rise much higher than they have for several years and one delegate offered the opinion that there would be a definite shortage of eggs in Canada before fall.

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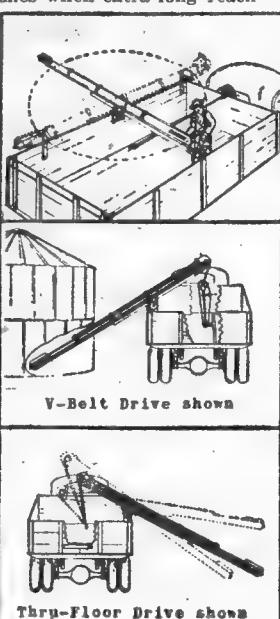
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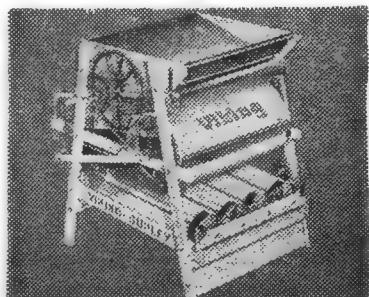
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The interesting Cat Owl will tackle a horse!

By KERRY WOOD

FARMERS have adopted the name of Cat Owl for the largest member of this nocturnal bird family, the Great Horned Owl. We can hear their deep-toned and booming hoots every night of springtime, because the hardy Cat Owls start mating and nesting long before migrant birds return from the south. And if you find a nest, be careful: the female G. H. Owl is a fiercely courageous mother and has been known to sink her talons into the scalps of nest-robbers!

Mankind seems to nourish a superstitious grudge against owls, hence many hunters shoot them on sight without bothering to consider their worth as beneficial predators. All members of the owl clan are valuable mouse and rat control agents, with certain reservations regarding only one member of the family: the Great Horned Owl. When such an owl takes up residence near a farm yard, unpenned poultry will become its victims, while Cat Owls have been known to kill adult turkeys.

In fairness to the owl, it should be mentioned that it kills a lot of rats in infested areas, dines on mice at all times of the year, and helps control rabbit during the abundant cycle of bunny numbers. In fact, the G. H. Owl will eat anything it can catch, such as lizards, salamanders, snakes, surface swimming fish, ground squirrels, pocket gophers, perching birds, game birds, muskrats and even skunks.

Sitting Duck

If an owl starts pestering the farm poultry flock, it is an easy matter to eliminate the marauder. G. H. Owls have a habit of perching out in the open on an exposed branch or on top of a telephone post half an hour before dark, and at such times present an easy target to the gunner. But be sure to check on your identification: a Great Horned Owl is a large, solidly built bird from 20 to 24 inches in body length, with prominent feather-horns rising a full inch above the round head to give it a cat-head appearance, while the wing span measures three feet or more.

Do NOT confuse it with the much more plentiful and smaller Short-eared Owl, a 15-inch owl with a trusting disposition that flaps above marshlands and farm fields during the early evening. The Short-eared Owl dines on field-mice almost exclusively, yet this very valuable species is often shot by mistake for the larger, feather-horned owl.

If the Great Horned Owl is not bothering your poultry flock, I recommend it as an interesting bird to study. It is



This is a typical silhouette of a Great Horned Owl perched on a tree in early evening.

afraid of nothing, and seems convinced that anything that moves is edible. I have played games with such owls by wrapping fur around a stick and tying a long string to it, then placing the lure out in a clearing near a Cat Owl's favorite perch. When the bird arrives at dusk, I yank the string from my hiding place to make the fur-covered lure dance along the ground, and always thrill to the swift, accurate swoop of the big owl. But it is not safe to cheep like a mouse when doing this: such owls have marvelous ears, and I've had them dive right at me after imitating a mouse squeak!

One evening I saw such an owl flying over a pasture field where horses were standing. One horse happened to flick its tail; instantly the owl swooped down and sank its talons into the rump of the startled horse. The bird hung on for a moment, while the horse started a frantic gallop down the field. Then the owl reluctantly decided to let go, but I'll bet the bird bragged from then on about the Whopper Size of the Big One that got away!

Good pasture with oats

OATS, barley and wheat are used for pasture in many districts in Western Canada. During the past year these crops have been included in a dry-land grazing experiment at the Swift Current Station. The results available are of interest at this time, when plans are being made to provide extra farm pasture for 1953.

Grazing commenced with yearling ewes on June 15th on Ajax and Exeter oats, Titan barley and Thatcher wheat. Of these crops Ajax oats and Titan barley produced the greatest

amount of feed and the greatest number of days of grazing. Exeter oats, and Thatcher wheat produced about equally and some 15 per cent less than the others. Both oat varieties recovered from grazing better than either the wheat or barley when grazed in rotation, even when soil moisture was plentiful. All crops produced approximately the same rate of live-stock gain—approximately one-quarter pound per yearling ewe per day.

As the fields were stocked at slightly over eight ewes per acre, the animal gain amounted to over 200 pounds per acre. It is estimated that this rate of grazing and return may be double that which can be expected in an average year. Both oat varieties were as palatable as the wheat and barley during the growing season and apparently much more palatable after heading and at maturity.

New grasses

THREE new grasses will be added this year to the forage crop demonstrations of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture.

The demonstrations are conducted by Agricultural Representatives with the assistance of the Plant Industry Branch, and this year will include pasture as well as hay demonstrations.

The director of the Plant Industry Branch, R. E. McKenzie, said three grasses recommended for the first time last year for use in Saskatchewan, will be given their first wide-spread practical tests in the demonstrations. The grasses are intermediate wheat grass, tall wheat grass, and Russian wild rye.

Intermediate wheat grass is a fairly long-lived perennial with creeping roots which has a high yield. Tall wheat grass is also a fairly long-lived perennial with high yield, but is not creeping and requires more moisture. It is tolerant of wet moderately alkali soils. Russian wild rye is a long-lived perennial which is not creeping. It is recommended for pasture rather than hay crops because of a heavy growth of leaves. Russian rye will be used only in pasture demonstrations.

Seed for up to four demonstrations each for hay and pasture will be supplied to each Agricultural Representative district. Of three plots in each hay demonstration, one will be seeded to grass alone. The others will be seeded to a grass-legume mixture.

Farmers who wish to have one of these demonstration projects located on their land, should contact their Agricultural Representative as soon as possible.

Oil is a Gamble too!



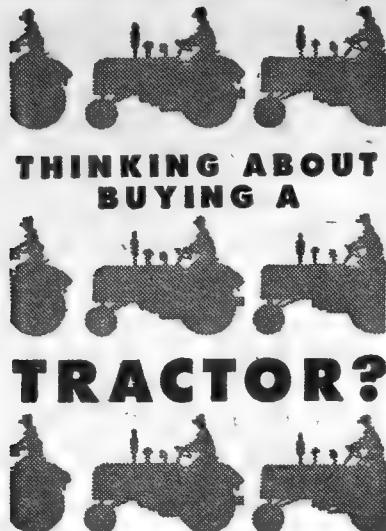
Farmers and oilmen have a lot in common. A farmer sows a crop, but what he harvests is up to nature.

By the same token, there are many hazards peculiar to the oil business. In spite of scientific improvements and techniques applied to the business of searching for oil, the only way to determine the presence of oil is by drilling. And drilling a wildcat well is one of the most risky ventures in modern industry. Pushing a hole thousands of feet into the earth has cost as much as a million and a half dollars — yet more often than not, wildcat wells turn out dry. Since 1946, for example, the odds against a wildcat well finding a new oil field have been 22 to 1 in Western Canada.

Because oilmen took the gamble — and are still taking it — everybody benefits. Across Western Canada, oil discoveries have brought increased government revenues, payments to farmers for surface use, new employment, and the lowest petroleum product prices in the country.

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CFU-16

Energy, initiation, drive, all show in handwriting

By DAVID MEYER

WHAT would you expect to find in people with initiative? Several character traits come to mind at once, namely, self-reliance, energy, activity, the drive to accomplish, and a firm will.

The writing will be applied with force and firmness. The pen will move rapidly, with considerable angularity, that will produce a sharp and pointed script.

Objectivity and clearness of ideas and observation will be present to give proper direction to the effort. Good perception and powers of penetration will also be present, for these traits tell us that the writer undertakes things without waiting to be told what to do or how to do them.

Perseverance and resourcefulness are also expected of people gifted with initiative.

*I want writer to say that she is concerned
over your health. Mother & Father are doing well.*

The above specimen is a good example of our subject. Activity is expressed in the sharp and angular letter formations. Energy and determination are conveyed by the heavy pen pressure. The good spacing tells us that the writer possesses objectivity, intelligence and resourcefulness. He is clear-headed and purposeful. Mistakes and failures do not readily discourage him. He possesses much drive and go and spirit.

The smallness of the letters and their legibility reveal powers of concentration. This writer is an imperturbable worker. And he enjoys his work for its own sake. He is a project engineer by profession, but he would have done well in any of the sciences, law or journalism. He is quite versatile.

This writer is a complex man. He has a sense of humor tending to the sarcastic. The script is fast, which tells us that with his quickness of perception he is impatient with a lower and duller minds and can say cutting things.

The heavy pressure reveals controlled temper. He can be harsh when provoked or crossed by routine and red tape. He is an independent man and will take no nonsense from equals or superiors.

The slant to the right tells us that he is affectionate and loves to show his feelings for people close to him. He is sensitive and refined.

He would also make a good scientific writer.

Note that the letters are often of uneven height. This writer is high-strung as a fine violin. He is cultured and at home in the world of ideas. He is keenly aware of what goes on

in the world around him and has his own interpretation of events.

What are some of the characteristics that make a good salesman?

The following two samples were written by top salesmen for a gear and metal firm. The two men are quite different in temperament and mental equipment, but they have certain qualities that make for go-getters.

I am very happy that I can

2 - Gentleman - My colleagues in the

Observe that sample 1 moves upward, slants to the right, is quick, and rather narrow. These traits tell us that the writer is

earth. His modesty and earnestness are real, not put on. He is a practical man of affairs and will win the confidence of businessmen.

The "n's", you will observe, are inverted and have round bottoms and pointed tops. Our man is gifted with much personal charm. But he is also keen for opportunity.

Note that the word endings of sample 2, like the word endings of sample 1, are short. This writer also knows when to stop "selling" and get on with the signing of the contract.

I REMEMBER . . .

BUSIEST place in Winnipeg in November of 1928 was the unemployment office. With a score of nationalities represented, it seemed virtually the "crossroads of the world", yet you'd be sure to come across someone you knew. One day I met a young Englishman whom last I'd seen as a student teacher in my home town in Derbyshire, England, two years previous.

"Just wanted to see what Canada was like," he said.

Met one bronzed stranger who had just come in from Edmonton — ten-gallon hat, red shirt, studded cuffs and belt, and a wry, weathered face — you'd swear he was a Texan. I asked where he hailed from, and he told me, "the East Indies".

T. Bird. Foxford, Sask.

What does your handwriting reveal?

Are you a natural-born salesman or would you make a better mechanic? Have you got hidden talent for art, cookery or stenography? Would you be interested in getting the verdict of an expert on the character your handwriting reveals?

The Farm and Ranch has arranged with Mr David Meyer, the author of this new and regular feature of the Farm and Ranch, to analyze the handwriting of its readers. Here are the rules:

Write at least 12 lines with pen and ink on good paper. Do NOT — repeat — NOT use a ball-point pen or pencil. Send it, together with 25 cents in coin:

DAVID MEYER,

7½ Jane St., New York City, New York, U.S.A.

Do not send stamps and always enclose a self-addressed envelope.

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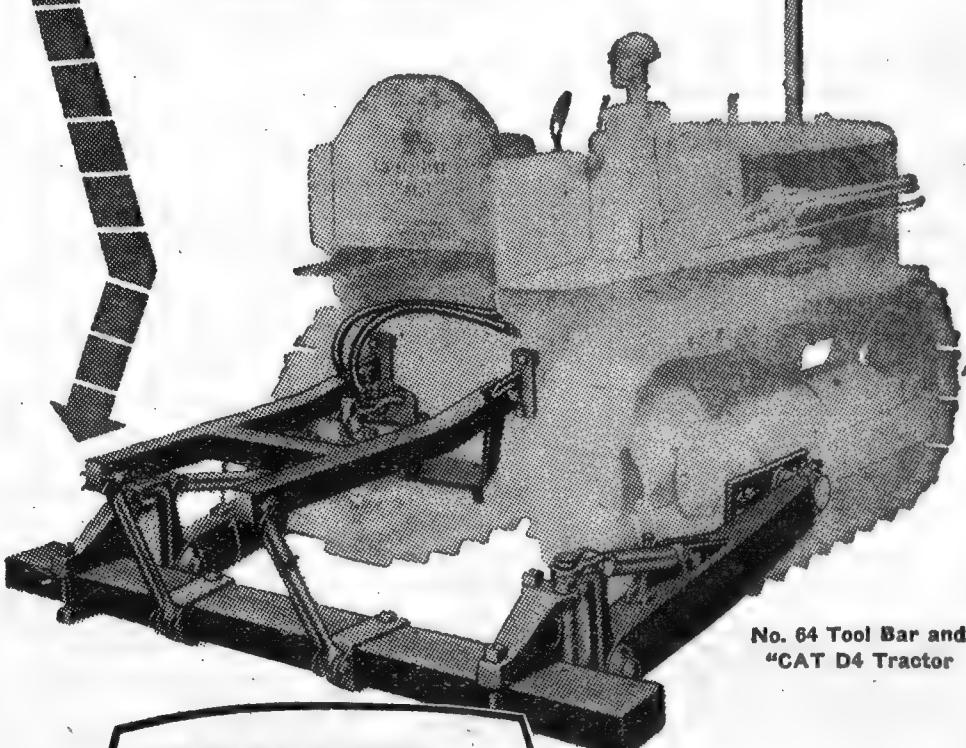
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Phew!
Ouch!

To the Editor:

WHEN my subscription to this rag, you have the audacity to call a newspaper expires, please cancel sending it to me, as I do not wish to contaminate my home with it any further. It is not even fit to light a fire with.

In the past, I have always had the misconception idea, that the editors of our papers in Canada were men of a high order of intelligence. After reading the attached editorial it seems I have been much in error in this supposition.

To write an editorial such as this, either the writer or the people he thinks will read it would have to be nitwits in order to believe it.

Such tripe, paragraph underlined, what political party has ever played politics in the Province of Quebec more than the Liberals? In the first world war, where was conscription enforced, and where not enforced? Everything the Liberal party in Canada has ever done has been with an eye on the Quebec vote.

You speak of stealing principles, the Liberals never had any to steal.

Are you afraid of what might be the outcome of the next election, and you are trying to fool the people again, as the Liberals have done in the past, with their holier than thou mouthings.

If you ever write another editorial, please give your readers credit for at least a glimmering of intelligence.

W. G. Gillard.
P.O. Box 18, Summerland, B.C.

**Fire
them all**

To the Editor:

ORGANIZED labor is the farmers' greatest enemy. They should be brought to book. Our politicians have given them too much power. This grain handlers' strike at Vancouver is a crime. The grain firms concerned should fire them all and get a new crew. If it were possible, bring in a bunch of Chinese prisoners of war, they would only be too glad to do the work, and would work for a much less wage.

For the good of all, including the members themselves, the power of the unions and the men who control them must be broken.

Perhaps some day we will get a prime minister, less dependent on their votes, and with grit enough to do this.

W. R. Eastwood.

Menaik, Alta.

**Making
Rain**

To the Editor:

THE facts of the matter are there is nothing very new or extraordinary about rain increase. Our Blackfeet medicine men, south of town, have had better than ordinary success in this industry. They use the plain "Sun Dance" and seem to get along very well with no advertising. Then, again, the cumulative effect of united prayer for rain employed for the past 50 years by our local churches is known to all. Nobody but a fool would deny the effect of concentrated

united prayer for rain by even a handful of devoted people for even five minutes every month.

Drouth is what has made this country what it is. It has certainly developed a tough, resistant, reliant people, who make every stumbling block a stepping stone and come up smiling and no thanks to our potential friends from anywhere.

The main objections to rain increase methods as described in the aforementioned article are:

1. There are ten different theories to explain it away and none of them jibe.

2. It depends on what are called "synoptic weather conditions". I presume this is more or less of an emotional factor and simply means the more you pay the fortune-teller, the higher your hopes will ride.

3. It is allergic to small bank accounts. Witness the fact that in Montana Messrs. "Precipitation Engineers" put on a "loss leader" sale, reducing the price from 10c to 5c per acre.

4. There are no brakes on these "ultra modern" rain-increase machines. They are non-stop. To them that hath shall be added — too much. Which means eventually too much rain.

Certainly the ship of state in Alberta is in motion. Always has been in fact. But is that any reason to add additional rain-increase. Barnacles to the oil barnacles we already are infested with. Let's give our mill a thorough scraping. Why God-fearing Alberta farmers should be so gullable as to fall for these forms of foreign aid I am sure I do not know.

Realistically, we are told the farmers will do the "work". Just turn on the tap and light the gas. We now better. Not one word is said about the "take".

It just seems we have guts enough to buy anything provided _____. It is good, second-hand American stuff.

J. W. Naismith.

Calgary, Alta.

We're flooded with replies on the Heaven-Hell issue

To the Editor:

I NOTICED a letter to the editor, by James Henry in the March issue of the Farm and Ranch Review, and, frankly, I was amazed you would print such a letter.

Frank S. Morley writes in an article in the same issue, "I have never seen an atom bomb and never seen any of its destruction, but it would be silly to deny its existence." Of course we have to take into consideration that, some people because they can't see a thing it does not exist. For instance you can not see the air you breathe, but put a man into a tank void of air and sealed, and see what happens. Maybe air is just something you read about in fairy tales.

I agree with Mr. Henry on some things. I do not believe in elaborate churches. I read in the Book of Revelations (chapter 2: 2 - 4): "I know thy works and thy labor, and thy patience and how thou canst not bear them which are evil and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles and are not, and hast found them liars.

"And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast labored, and hast not fainted.

"Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love."

V. Fringer.

DeWinton, Alta.

To the Editor:

M. JAMES HENRY'S title "No heaven, no hell," causes me to write a few lines in defence of "Frank Morley's article, How to get to Heaven."

I am reluctant to believe Mr. Henry is so unbelieving of God's word, The Bible.

If he denies heaven and hell, he also denies God.

God's word says in Psalm, chapter 14, verse 1: "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God."

Mr. Henry, won't you get a Bible, if you haven't one already, and look up these few references I give you? St. John's gospel, chapter 3, verse 36; Ecclesiastes, ch. 5, verse 2; Romans, ch. 1, verse 18; Matthew, 3: 16. These are just a very few I could give you on heaven.

Just a few on hell: Psalm, ch. 9, verse 17; Acts, 2:27; Proverbs, ch. 23, verse 14; Luke, 12:5; Luke, 16:23.

I do hope you will look up these references, and that God will convict you of your sin of unbelief, and open your eyes that you will see the truth and accept it.

Mrs. Frank Sklapsky.

Prince Rupert, B.C.

To the Editor:

IN reply to James Henry's letter, it may be true or not that there is no evidence of life after death, so I

will view the question from a practical side only. We have a great deal of evidence of the good Christianity has done. Maybe J. H. will agree with that. I am very tolerant and do not condemn anyone until I know all sides of the question so will not condemn J. H. without more knowledge of his personal character.

I just wonder what kind of a town Lloydminster would be without any churches or Sunday schools, and no one took any interest in religion whatever. I think it would degenerate quickly and law and order would be difficult to maintain. So we must do (and say) the things we know are right — things that make life good and orderly. Everyone has a responsibility towards the community and country in which he lives. I am not worried too much about life after death. I am more intent on what happens to me here and now, and am willing to take the consequences whatever comes afterwards.

H. Thorpe.

Dunsmore.

To the Editor:

AFTER reading Mr. James Henry's letter, I felt I had to write.

He says there is no evidence of another life after death. Do you not believe in God, Mr. Henry? For, if you did, you would believe in His Word, "The Bible".

God says in Psalm 14:1: "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God."

God's word gives many evidences of heaven and hell. I will put just one of each here. Luke 16:23, where the

(Continued on page 38)



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21 NEW SUPER H FEATURES in all, help to make this tractor the leader of the 2-3 plow class! In addition to improved performance, and new comfort refinements, the crankshaft, clutch, transmission, and differential have been strengthened to match the increased power of the new Farmall Super H. See and drive the new Super H — with 21 new features—on your own farm. Try it with the McCormick implement of your choice. Feel the greater pull-power of the Super H under heavy load. See how much faster you can make a round. Ask your IH dealer for a demonstration, today!

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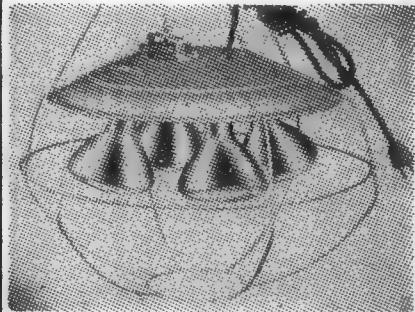
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(Continued from page 36)

rich man lifted up his eyes in hell. And Luke 23: 43, Jesus said to the thief, on the cross (who believed in Him): "today shalt thou be with Me in Paradise". So start to read the Bible, Mr. Henry, and you will find out.

We who live in this wonderful land of Canada, owe our freedom and many blessings to God and His written word.

I'm glad I know there is a heaven to gain and a hell to shun, and I'm glad I know the only way to heaven is by trusting in the shed blood of Jesus Christ. You better start reading your Bible, Mr. Henry, for in it is found the way of eternal life.

Mrs. Earl Fox.

Qu'Appelle, Sask.

"If any man's will is to do His (God's) will, he shall know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority."

H. Arnholdt Strand.

Valhalla Centre, Alta.

To the Editor:

The brain wave on religion by James

Henry will draw plenty of fire, and no wonder, since it is evident he is just as dogmatic, bigoted and intolerant as are the fundamentalists. This attitude makes his points less impressive than they otherwise might be. Mr. Henry should know that Christianity is on the march, and that leading Christians put much less value now on such things as poverty, meekness and obedience. The emphasis today is more on equality and as much of the good life as is consistent with the highest ethics. The idea of rewards and punishments in an after life is fading, and heaven and hell is thought of as here and now. I believe it was Bishop Barnes who said that doubt is necessary for progress in religion as in other matters; but surely it is wiser to replace, before you destroy utterly, as your correspondent seeks to do. He must have been soured by the shoals of tracts sent out by simple literal souls, warning of hell fire and the wrath of the Lamb, etc. But there are always gullible fringes of well-meaning people attached to most movements, and it is wrong to regard them as representative.

But speaking of souls having separate entities, I think Coleridge put it very well for his day and age when he wrote: "The souls did from their bodies fly— They fled to bliss or woe!
And every soul it pass'd me by.
Like the whizz of my crossbow!"

A bit old fashioned, perhaps, but I wonder if Mr. Henry could put his guess into language which would match that verse.

John Christie.

6625 Fleming, Vancouver, B.C.

To the Editor:

WE enjoy your paper so much and there is excellent reading matter contained therein, but I am at a loss to understand why you should publish such a letter as James Henry, Lloydminster, sent in.

Without doubt apart from him being an atheist, he is also an ignoramus or he wouldn't have the audacity to send in such communistic views to a paper which is not afraid to reverence God's name. I shudder at the harm his letter could do to people who are weak willed. There is no point in quoting scripture to him of a heaven to gain and a hell to shun since he doesn't believe the Bible. He says, "people have been forced to believe these doctrines". I would remind him our Scottish ancestors stained the heather with their blood defending the Word of God and all that it stood for.

Whether he believes it or not, unless he changes his way of thinking and comes to the Saviour who died for him on Calvary, one day he will waken up in hell, and then it will be forever too late to repent.

Mr. Henry would do well to read the first chapter of Proverbs especially from the 24th verse.

S. McNeill.

414 Russell Street, Victoria, B.C.

To the Editor:

IN the Farm and Ranch Review of March, a certain James Henry submitted a letter entitled "No heaven and no hell". Quote: "What is the idea of printing such stuff and nonsense as that", etc., etc.

Anyone making positive statements in the realm of meta-physics, as to the existence of heaven and hell, should be well versed in philosophy. Said Voltaire: "Define your terms."

No heaven and no hell, then? There is a promise that any man can know, and this promise, made by Jesus the Christ, son of God and Son of man, has proved to be true till this day.

As the writer of this remarkable piece of prose did not define his terms, we have to assume their definition from the trend of his letter. If by "hell" he understands a place as described in Dante's Inferno, and by "heaven" a similar phantasmagoria, he might have an intelligent argument.

By rejecting the beliefs and conceptions of centuries as well as the inspired scriptures, he is philosophically on thin ice. As to immortality or consciousness after death, the arguments pro are easier to establish and more plentiful than those contra. It is stating a definite untruth when referring to these doctrines as "exploded" and refuted, for the majority of philosophers have accepted: (a) The existence of man (Descartes: Cogito ergo sum). (b) The existence of good and evil (moral law); (c) the existence of an intelligent, hence personal, Creator, also called "first cause", God (Aristotle, Kant, Fichte, du Noy, etc.). Is it such a great stretch of the imagination to conceive a state of like-mindedness, one-ness, of man with God (call it "heaven") and also a state of opposition to God (call it "hell")?

The fact that the writer gets coarse and abusive about the countless millions who do believe in "heaven" and "hell", and are not "all" fools to fall for a "racket", is proof that: "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy" (Shakespeare), and there is also such a thing as "enmity between thy seed and her seed" (Gen. 3:15).

Mr. Editor, we like your paper very much and remain,

M. T. Janzen.

Wynndal, B.C.

Mineral needs in Saskatchewan

POULTRYMEN and live stock producers in Saskatchewan should pay special attention to the use of approved mineral supplements in the feeding ration.

This was stated today by the Director of the provincial Agriculture Department's animal industry branch, E. E. Brocklebank. The Director pointed out that experimental farms, the University of Saskatchewan, Ag.-Reps. and the Department of Agriculture will advise farmers on the use of mineral supplements. There are bulletins available, he said, including the "Guide to Farm Practice", in which recommendations have been made by recognized agricultural services.

Mr. Brocklebank said mineral needs of animals and poultry in Saskatchewan are mainly confined to phosphorus (found in bonemeal), calcium (found in ground limestone, oyster shells, etc.); salt, and very small quantities of cobalt and iodine. These ingredients may be purchased and mixed on the farm, or they may be obtained ready-mixed as developed by members of the Saskatchewan Feed Manufacturers' Association for specific kinds of animals and poultry. These firms, stated the Director, employ technical staff to study the problems of feeds and supplements in Canada, and their products are, on the whole, both reliable and generally priced below imported supplements.

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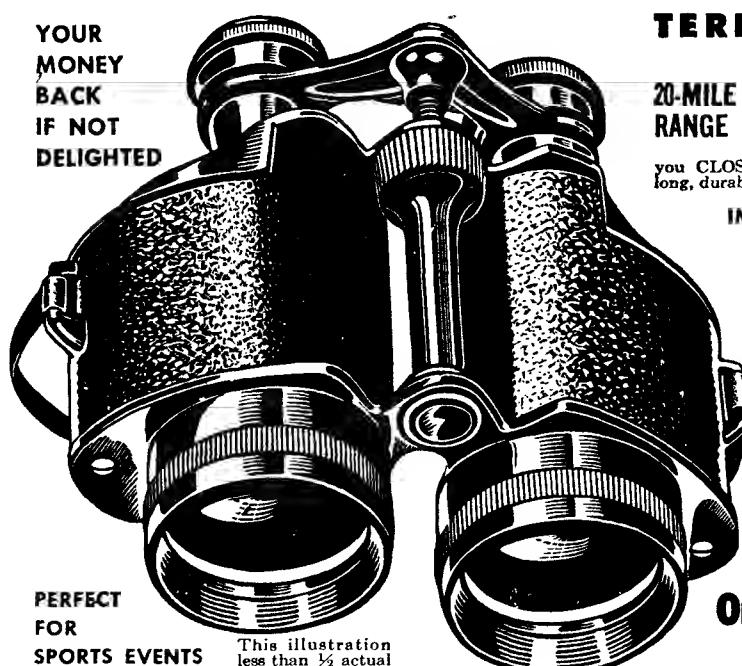
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Let's Ask Aunt Sal . . .

AS newspaper columns have to be written ahead of date of publication, the questions that you'll find below are those that came to my desk during the month of February. Now this was, naturally, the shortest month of the year, but that didn't follow that the fewest number of letters came in. Not by a long sight! You surely did well to think up all the questions you tossed my way: I'll just try to do half as well . . . and answer them.

Q.: I notice that you got such good results when you asked for a quilt pattern for "The Little Dutch Girl," now I wonder if any reader has the pattern of "The Little Dutch Boy"? — Mrs. N. K., Nobleford, Alta.

A.: If any reader can supply will you please drop me a card with your name and address attached and then I can contact you and supply the necessary postage.

Q.: Is there a simple way to remove the heavy coating that forms inside water kettles? I have tried inserting marbles and cheesecloth with little success. — Mrs. P. O. F., Consort, Alta.

A.: The very old remedy is to place equal parts of vinegar and water in the kettle, let come to boil and boil a few minutes, then leave it in overnight. Boil it out well with clear water. Sometimes one will have to repeat this.

Q.: I dyed a moire taffeta dress and it took all the crisp-

ness out of it. Can you tell me how to regain this? — Mrs. D., Bowsman River, Man.

A.: Here is an old-time recipe for starching black garments:

Black Starch: Boil 1 quart bran in 3 qts. water for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Strain. If too thick add a little cold water. Or gum arabic starch may be used. Note: Question re it below.

Q.: I read of something called gum arabic and wondered if I could use it to stiffen a voile or silk dress. How do you use this and where do you get it? — "Grandma," Camrose, Alta.

A.: This is purchased in drug or hardware stores, sometimes paint stores too. Dissolve one tbbsp. of it in 1 quart boiling water. Use $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of this mixture to each quart of water. When the garment is dried, if it is not stiff enough make it stronger.

Q.: I have been collecting tin-foil wrappings and wonder where I could send it to be of some use. — Mrs. A. P., Wynyard, Sask.

A.: There was a scarcity of this during the war years, but it is in good supply now, so I don't imagine any firms are asking for it.

Q.: I would like to know more about the handiwork of feather-craft. (Repeat.)

A.: A friend has sent me the address of a lady who does lovely work along this line so possibly she is ready to handle questions on this work. When writing her enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for her reply. Mrs. Eva Lindbloom, Box 494, Cranbrook, B.C.

Q.: How can I remove grease stains from a crepe silk blouse? — Mrs. E. C., Lethbridge, Alta.

A.: Cover spots with Fuller's earth (bought at drug stores) or cornstarch or cornmeal. Let stand a while then apply carbon-tetrachloride. Rub this paste over spots lightly, then rinse with clear cool water.

Q.: The lady who wrote in for the recipe for the coontown cake got such good results so I thought I would try. I want the cucumber pickle recipe that is in the back of the same cook-book — "Five Roses Cook Book for 1925 or 1926". — Mrs. A. C., Stauffer, Alta.

An.: Anyone who has this recipe would you care to drop me a card to tell me so, then I can contact you if I want you to send it (or the page containing this recipe). I have some other fine cucumber recipes, but not this one.

Q.: Has any reader a copy of the book that used to be sold by T. Eaton's "8th grade subjects condensed in one volume." And would she like to exchange it for

We bid good-bye to winter days.
And welcome in the Spring.
We welcome, too, each Handy Hint.
And like the help they bring.

IT is not necessary for you, kind readers, to write in thanking us for help you've received through this column, and yet we are human enough to feel mighty tickled when you do that very thing! It is impossible for me to write you each personal letters, but I know you know that I'm talking to each one of you when I send out these little monthly messages.

Several messages from various readers reached me that I feel I should mention in this space. For instance:

Mrs. Louis Krall, of Natal, B.C., wants me to thank all the kind ladies who sent her in quilt patterns.

Mrs. Napoleon Georges of Canoé, B.C., bundled up a whole package of her old cook books and accumulation of clippings

a copy of 'John Williams' Adult Approach to Music'? — Mrs. Napoleon Georges, Canoe, B.C.

A.: Anyone interested in this "swap" write directly to name signed above.

Note: — All readers are invited to send in their home-making problems to Aunt Sal, in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta. If you have any doubts about your letter being used in this column enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. There is no charge for this service.

Aunt Sal Suggests . . .

and sent in for my perusal. Although I have many shelves now loaded down with cooking guides, I just can't resist reading more of them. And depend upon it, I'll be finding some new ones to share with you.

Mrs. H. Larson of Aldergrove, B.C., sent us in her favorite recipe for pumpkin cake that was asked for a few months back. It differs a little from one I gave you before so here is hers.

Pumpkin Cake

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup shortening (I used vegetable shortening), 1 cup white sugar, 2 egg yolks, 1 cup cooked pumpkin, $1\frac{1}{4}$ cup sifted flour, 3 tsps. baking powder, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cinnamon, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cloves, 2 egg whites.

Cream shortening and sugar (adding slowly). Sift dry ingredients together and add alternately with mashed pumpkin and beaten egg yolks. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites.—Mrs. L. didn't give baking directions, but I baked it 45 minutes in oven 350° F.

This can be served hot as a pudding with a simple sauce, or cold with topping of whipped cream or with your favorite icing. I tried it with this icing that gave it a different touch.

Coffee Butter Frosting

$1\frac{1}{2}$ cups confectionery sugar, 1 tbisp. dry cocoa, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup butter, 1 tbisp. strong liquid coffee.

No directions are needed for this, I'm sure . . . just work all together with a right good will.

At our house we used to name "store cookies" "The lazy housewife's dessert," but since we acquired our home freezer and always have ice cream on hand we call it the lazy dish. But none of us are too lazy to spoon it into our mouths.

I believe the meal that plagues home cooks the most is supper, or luncheon (if you're tony enough to have your dinner in the evening). Here is a tasty dish we had the other evening that I don't remember trying before. I have named it:

Rice Casserole

Combine equal portions of boiled rice and any chopped leftover meat. Add a can of cooked tomatoes. Cover with a layer of cracker or dry bread crumbs. Dot with butter and cook in medium oven until nicely browned. This can be varied many ways by the addition of canned peas or a can of tomato creamed soup.

Spicy Peach Beef

Combine fresh bread crumbs, 1 egg, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk and desired spices with one pound of ground meat and press halves of cooked peaches on top of loaf with hollow side up and fill each hollow with catchup. Bake $\frac{1}{2}$ hour in 350° F. oven, then (notice this) spoon off excess fat and bake 20 minutes longer. If you hate greasy meat loaves like I do you'll remember to do this.

Bye bye for now . . .

Aunt Sal.

The Dishpan Philosopher

THE poets sing of April showers as needed to bring out May flowers. But farmers don't see eye to eye with poets — they like April dry. Wet Aprils tend to dislocate their plans and make the harvest late. In fact, they'd really just as soon see April showers postponed till June. However, nature's fickle hand the farmer seems to understand, and what it gives him he can take while always hoping for a break. It's really mostly when he deals with men and markets that he feels a definite degree of doubt on how he's going to make out.

The farmers, like the poets, admire the flowers of May but they aspire to August wheat and must rely for that on April's sunny sky. So with the farmer's needs in mind let's hope this April will be kind.

3 different Cheese-flavored Treats from One Basic Dough!

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BASIC CHEESE DOUGH

Scald

1½ cups milk
3 tablespoons granulated sugar
2 teaspoons salt
3 tablespoons shortening

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

½ cup lukewarm water

1 teaspoon granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

1 envelope Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well.

Stir in lukewarm milk mixture.

Stir in

2½ cups once-sifted bread flour
and beat until smooth and elastic; stir in
1½ cups lightly-packed shredded old cheese

Work in

2½ cups more (about) once-sifted bread flour
Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead
dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in
a greased bowl and grease top of dough.

Cover and set dough in warm place, free from
draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk.

Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and
knead lightly until smooth. Divide into portions
and finish as follows:



1. CHEESE LOAF

Shape half a batch of dough into a loaf and fit into a greased bread pan about 4½ by 8½ inches. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderately hot oven, 375°, about 40 minutes — cover loaf with brown paper during latter part of baking to avoid crust becoming too brown.

2. MARMALADE BRAID

Roll out a quarter of a batch of dough into an 8-inch square on a lightly-floured board; loosen dough. Spread with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup marmalade and sprinkle with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped nutmeats. Roll up jelly-roll fashion; seal edge and ends. Roll out into an oblong 9 inches long and 3 inches wide; loosen dough.

Cut oblong into 3 lengthwise strips to within an inch of one end. Braid strips, seal the ends and tuck them under braid. Place on greased cookie sheet. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderately hot oven, 375°, about 20 minutes.

3. CHEESE BREAD STICKS

Cut a quarter of a batch of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces and roll, one at a time, into slim strips about 7 inches long. Brush strips with water and roll lightly in cornmeal. Place, well apart, on greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderately hot oven, 375°, about 10 minutes.

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Children love to experiment



By LOUISE PRICE BELL

EVERY mother knows that children will often turn from expensive toys to play with something like a worn-out carpet sweeper, a broken-down car that has movable partitions . . . even with pots and pans. This is because too often toys are complete, leave too little to the imagination of the child. A broken-down carpet-sweeper that can't be used any more offers a real challenge. It can

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Looking for a variety? Serve these meat dishes

TO achieve variety in three meals a day, the home economists of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture suggests using the so-called "variety meats". These meats include the liver, heart, kidney, sweetbreads, tongue, brains and tripe from beef, veal, pork and lamb. Variety meats have a distinctive flavor and when properly cooked, are attractive in appearance. Most of them are relatively inexpensive and are considered economy buys because they furnish so much food value. These meats are perishable and for this reason should not be stored

more than one day in the refrigerator. They must be absolutely fresh, firm to touch and sweet in odour.

Kidney is one of the variety meats which may be served in several appetizing ways. It is quite understandable that kidneys are not of the same size and color. Beef kidneys are a dark brown and weigh from one to one and one-quarter pounds. Veal kidneys are similar to beef kidneys only they are lighter brown in color and weigh about half a pound. Pork kidneys, also light brown, weigh about one-quarter of a pound, while lamb kidneys are dark brown and weigh only two to three ounces. Kidneys also differ in flavor and tenderness and, because of this, they should not all be cooked the same way. The less tender, beef kidney, should be cooked slowly by moist heat, whereas pork, veal and lamb kidney may be pan-fried or broiled.

The home economists suggest braised beef kidney, a very tempting dish. First, the kidneys are soaked for one hour in cold salted water using one tablespoon of salt to four cups of water. This gives the kidneys a milder flavor. The kidney is then dried and split in half lengthwise. The fat and tubes are cut out with a pair of sharp-pointed scissors. After the kidney is sliced one-quarter inch crosswise, the slices are rolled in seasoned flour and browned over high heat in enough fat to prevent them from burning. Two beef kid-

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Apples, apples, big red apples

By ANNIE L. GAETZ

"A n apple a day keeps the doctor away." This saying is old and hackneyed; but it does contain a kernel of truth. Apples, either fresh or cooked, contain valuable vitamins, and they can be served in so many different ways that they are always popular with the cook, as well as with the family.

Apple Crumb Pudding—1 cup flour, 1 cup brown sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter, 3 large apples, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cinnamon. Mix flour, sugar, butter, cinnamon and a dash of salt into fine crumbs. Sprinkle over the sliced apples in a bake dish. Bake for 30 minutes in moderate oven, removing the cover the last 10 minutes so as to brown. Serve with cream or top milk.

Apple Float—Beat the whites of 4 eggs until light; then add pinch of salt and 4 tbsps. powdered sugar and beat till fine and dry. Have ready 2 good-sized apples. Pare and grate into the eggs, a little at a time, beating carefully until you have as much apple as the meringue will hold. Have the bottom of a glass dish covered with soft custard or jelly made from Jell-o powder. Pour apple mixture on top.

Apple Pudding—Cream $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter, add 2 eggs beaten, 1 cup milk, 2 cups flour sifted with 2 tbsps. baking powder and a pinch of salt. Then add $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups finely chopped apples. Steam $\frac{1}{2}$ hour in cups. Serve with cream and nutmeg.

Brown Betty—Grease a pudding dish and slice in a layer of apples, then a layer of bread crumbs with sugar and nutmeg and small pieces of butter. For 3 apples use 1 cup bread crumbs, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar and butter the size of an egg. The top layer should be bread crumbs. Bake till slightly brown. Serve with or without cream.

Apple Cobbler—4 cups sliced apples, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar, $\frac{1}{3}$ tsp. cinnamon, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup honey, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup brown sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter. Slice apples into bake dish; sprinkle over the sugar and cinnamon and add honey. Mix flour, salt, brown sugar and butter and spread over the top

of apple mixture. Bake till done and serve with or without cream.

Dutch Apple Pie—Pastry for 1 pie crust, 6 medium-sized apples, 3 tbsps. flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar or honey, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cloves, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cinnamon, $1\frac{1}{2}$ tbsps. sugar, 1 cup sour cream. Roll crust and line pie plate, fluting the edge. Pare, core and slice apples filling the pastry shell. Mix flour, sugar, cloves, add sour cream and mix thoroughly. Pour over apples, then sprinkle with cinnamon and $1\frac{1}{2}$ tbsps. sugar. Bake in hot oven 10 minutes, then reduce the heat to moderate and finish baking.

Apple Dumpling—Make a biscuit dough, using 2 cups flour, 4 tbsps. baking powder, 1 tsp. salt, 4 level tbsps. lard, and milk to make a soft dough, from $2\frac{1}{3}$ to 1 cup. Divide into two parts and roll out like biscuit dough. Cover each part with apples peeled and sliced very thin or chopped. Sprinkle apples with brown sugar and a little nutmeg, roll up each part like jelly roll and steam over boiling water till dough is cooked. Serve with cream.

Apple Surprise—Make a biscuit dough as above. Roll out and cut into biscuits using sealer ring. Peel and quarter about 3 apples, and roll a quarter of apple in each biscuit. In the meantime, have boiling on the stove, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 cup boiling water, pinch salt and 1 tsp. vanilla. Put the biscuit rolls in a good sized bake dish, setting them around the dish and on end. Pour the hot syrup over the biscuits and bake till slightly browned. Serve in syrup from dish, adding cream if liked.

Corn Starch Apple Pudding—5 apples, 2 cups boiling water, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar, 2 tbsps. cornstarch, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cinnamon. Peel and core apples, cut in eighths or smaller, put in pudding dish, add water and cook until water boils. Add sugar, cornstarch mixed in a little cold water and cinnamon. When mixture thickens put in the oven and bake until apples are tender but not broken. Serve warm with cream.

neys will serve six people. This amount is best browned in three lots. If more than one-half to two-thirds of a pound is browned at one time, the kidney is apt to lose some of its juices, become dry and not brown properly.

After browning the kidney slices, cool the pan slightly and add enough water to cover, about three cups for two beef kidneys. Cover pan tightly and simmer on top of the stove or in 350° F., oven from twenty-five to thirty minutes or until the slices are tender.

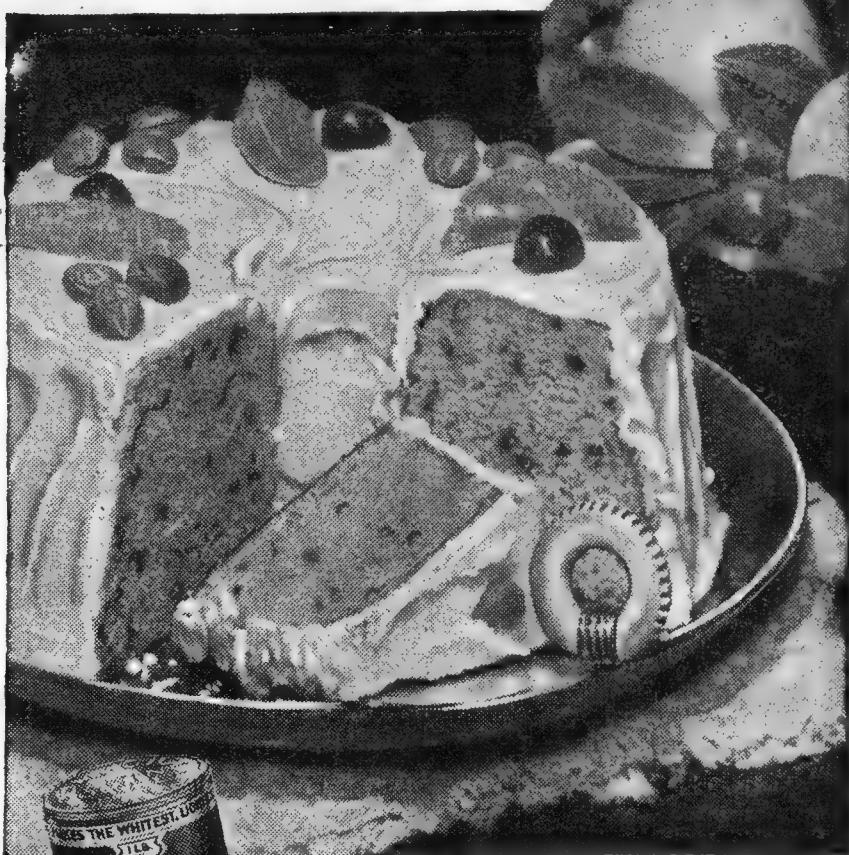
For a quick, tasty meat dish, fry fried veal kidney and bacon. Allow one pound of kidney and six strips of bacon for three

servings. Remove the outer membrane and cut the kidney in half lengthwise. Cut out the fat and tubes with a pair of sharp-pointed scissors. Slice kidney one-quarter inch cross-wise. Fry the bacon, remove it from the pan and keep it warm while frying the kidney. Add the kidney slices to the hot bacon fat and brown over high heat. To prevent the kidney from burning, reduce the heat and turn often. Continue cooking tender, about five minutes. It is wise to fry only about half a pound of kidney at one time. Serve the kidney immediately either on toast for a supper dish, or with vegetables for a dinner dish.

They'll toot your praises over this yummy

Tutti-Frutti Cake

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TUTTI-FRUTTI RING LOAF CAKE

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 cups once-sifted pastry flour | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely-chopped filberts |
| or $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups once-sifted all-purpose flour | 9 tbsps. butter or margarine |
| 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tbsps. Magic Baking Powder | 1 cup fine granulated sugar |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt | 3 eggs, well beaten |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ cup well-drained finely-cut mixture of red and green maraschino or candied cherries | 1 tsp. grated orange rind |
| 2 tbsps. finely-cut preserved or candied ginger | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sieved well-drained sweetened canned peaches |
| | 2 tbsps. milk |
| | $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. vanilla |
| | $\frac{1}{6}$ tsp. almond extract |

Grease an 8-inch tube pan and line bottom with greased paper. Preheat oven to 325° (rather slow). Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together three times; mix in prepared cherries, ginger and filberts. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in sugar. Add well-beaten eggs part at a time, beating well after each addition; mix in orange rind. Combine sieved peaches, milk, vanilla and almond extract. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a quarter at a time, alternating with three additions of peach mixture and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pan. Bake in preheated oven 65 to 70 minutes. Cover cold cake with the following Creamy Peach Icing and decorate top with orange sections, drained halved green maraschino cherries and whole filberts.

CREAMY PEACH ICING: Cream 3 tbsps. butter or margarine. Work in 2 cups sifted icing sugar alternately with about 3 tbsps. sieved well-drained sweetened canned peaches—use just enough peach to make an icing of spreading consistency; beat in $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. almond extract.



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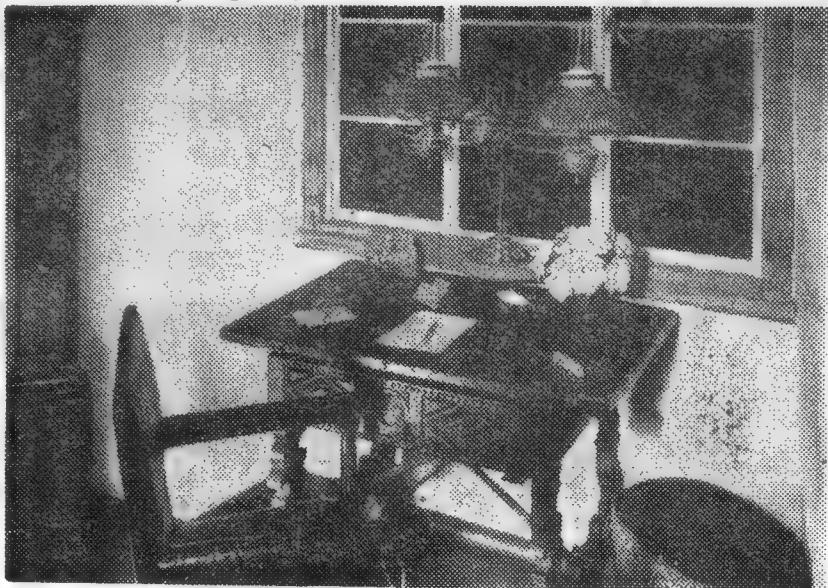
OLD DUTCH CLEANSER

House Dust Aggravated BRONCHITIS

"From time to time I suffer, especially in cold weather, from asthma and bronchitis," writes Mrs. D. Lavigne, Noelville, Ont. "Certain foods, and even dust, bring on an attack. I begin to wheeze, gasp and fight for breath, and soon I have a racking bronchial cough. It was fortunate that I learned about RAZ-MAH. When I take RAZ-MAH I know I can count on quick relief from wheezing, gasping and coughing!"

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Old things fit into new homes



By LOUISE PRICE BELL

NO matter how new your home may be, you'll find that once you "dig up" some family pieces, or accessories, and place them for practical or decorative use, they'll fit into the spot perfectly, and with no smitch of a discordant note. Take the interesting little desk shown in front of a living-room window of a house in the country, for instance . . . this was once a bacon table and its worn top, with knife-marks, only emphasizes its interest. Folks who really love old family pieces would never think of sanding or planing these marks away any more than I would the doodlings of my grandfather's on an old drop-leaf table I own and upon which he studied as a child . . . making dented doodlings as he studied!

The "student's lamp" on the desk is also an old-timer and very much like one my father owned and used when I was a child. Now, this lamp gives as good a light on the bacon table desk at night, as the window

does by day. The window also offers a long vista across ploughed fields, a vista conducive to dreaming instead of getting those important letters written! That's why the window isn't curtained; a curtain would shut out the lovely view of growing things. The grandfather clock in the corner is nearly a century old and still keeps time although usually in a tempermental fashion that precludes trying to catch a bus, or get a meal by it.

The candle-box on the wall above the old wooden chest is a relic from Holland where the original family members first lived. Since the chest is also an heirloom, the box is suitable above it and ties well with the old brass corn measure and the rich-hued carboy (or bottle) and the low box that was also brought across the Atlantic years ago. Although the brass measure was used for measuring corn it does decorative duty now, planted with greenery and



shows not the slightest sign that it was once used to "measure corn in barter". The garden bloom, standing stiff and tall in the bottle was picked that day, but the bottle was first used in 1750 — two hundred years ago!

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LEMON MUSTARD SAUCE
Drain vegetable cooking liquid into pan and simmer down to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup.

1½ teaspoons Keen's Mustard
1 teaspoon granulated sugar
¾ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons melted margarine, vegetable shortening or salad oil
4 teaspoons lemon juice
Pepper

Stir ingredients into vegetable liquid. Heat and pour over limas, beets, string beans or quick-cooked cabbage in serving dish. Try it too, with fish.

For newly revised recipe book send 10¢ to Reckitt & Colman (Canada) Limited, Station T, Montreal.

**Keen's
MUSTARD**

Country Diary

IN April winter leaves with his snow-blanket and ice-pack. His last fling is over. But there will still be the tingling nights and dawns rimed with silver frost.

April's outstanding feature is its versatility. Every day brings a change of mood, a change of scene, and it might well be called a fickle month, for it is filled with uncertainty. Sir William Watson, a profound twentieth century poet, though not much known, is the author of oft-quoted lines:

"April, April,
Laugh thy girlish laughter,
Then the moment after,
Weep thy girlish tears."

Which so aptly describe the sudden flood of music and sunshine and proverbial showers that make April a month of surprises. Shakespeare wrote of "the uncertain glory of an April day".

The sun has been on his way ever since the end of December, when he made the turn, but he is a slow traveller, slow to be seen and felt in this northerly land. Spring takes time here, contrary to the idea expressed in much poetic literature of warm, sweet, gentle sunshine descending on the countryside in accord with the season. It may be fitting in some countries, but an illusion here. However, Spring has gone underground to make ready. Deep down one of the mightiest movements of Nature is stirring in a tide of life, a subtle urge of rising sap among the roots to raise the new blades of grass and feed the tender leaves within the swelling buds.

Snow disappears, frost comes out of the land, hollows and ditches are filled with water in which frogs settle and raise their voices in joyful nocturnal chants, the barn-yard is a churned-up mess of mud, and rubber foot-wear is prominent on the back porch. Bold travellers of the sky are on their way home from their winter vacation in foreign lands. The story that swallows appear at Capistrano, [and other birds at other places] is regarded as a fable by ornithological experts. They come in easy stages, sometimes by night, waiting for tail-winds, perhaps dawdling along, stopping here and there to feed and rest, as we might, in the car.

The great mystery is, what occult compass leads the birds to their own home-sites, after six months absence in a land distant a thousand miles or more? What physical controls are there in these feathered bone-structures that impel them to migrate, mate, and build nests at the precise time? Indeed, if outside interruptions such as weather did not occur, they might conduct their lives with clock-like regularity. The study of migration is deep and fascinating.

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Eden's visit spotlights Britain's investment needs

By BEN MALKIN

THE visit of Anthony Eden, Britain's foreign minister, and R. A. Butler, the chancellor of the exchequer, to Washington and Ottawa in March marked another step toward implementing the decisions taken at the Commonwealth economic conference in London last January. These decisions had two aspects. First, trade had to be freed through such measures as lower tariffs, especially in the United States, and convertibility of the pound. Second, if trade was freed, Britain would have to have something to trade with.

This meant a heavy program of investment in developing raw material resources in the Commonwealth, and switching as much of Britain's production from highly competitive goods, such as textiles, to commodities in which the United Kingdom has a relatively clear field. Engineering products such as turbines and jet-propelled aircraft would be an example of the kind of thing Britain should emphasize in its manufacturing.

The visit to Ottawa by the two British statesmen was preceded by an announcement in London that dollars would be made available to Britain investors who wished to put their money into the development of

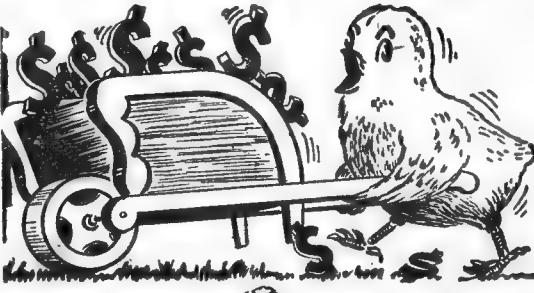
Canadian resources. This was an important switch from previous policy.

Big Increase

Since 1946, British investment in Canada has risen by at least 50 per cent from the low point reached in 1944. But most of this money has gone into manufacturing industries, and into service organizations for the sale of imported, manufactured goods, such as British automobiles. Exceptions have been aluminum — British capital is partly financing the Kitimat project — and to a small extent, oil. But in the main, British capital has been flowing into enterprises where a quick return could be expected. Big risks, and the big profits that go with them, have been avoided.

Apparently this investment policy is going to be modified somewhat, and some of the discussions in Ottawa centered around this change. Detailed projects have even been worked out, but they were kept secret during the Ottawa meeting. But there seems little question now that in addition to making a powerful effort to develop productivity in the sterling area of the Commonwealth, Britain is going to make a harder try than it has hitherto done to invest in

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the development of Canadian raw materials.

Government economists in Ottawa consider this all to the good. The criticism against outside capital developing Canadian resources tends to overlook certain facts. To begin with, Canada itself is already expending a very large proportion of its income on investment of this kind — more than 20 per cent, in fact. To expend more would involve serious cuts in expenditure on consumer goods and, consequently, on living standards, as well as on other necessities such as a defence establishment.

In addition, when the United States, or Sweden, or Britain, export capital to Canada, they also export technical know-how in specialized fields, which is something Canada needs just as much as capital. The investment of foreign capital in Canada has constituted a sort of private enterprise Point 4 program.

United States capital was, to a great extent, responsible for developing Alberta oil because U.S. oilmen have the equipment and know how to use it. The development of iron ore in Labrador is another case in point. British aluminum experts have had a great deal to do with developing Canada's aluminum industry from scratch before the war into the present-day giant.

The import of foreign capital means that certain resources become developed that might remain untouched for a long time to come were they left entirely to Canadian investors to exploit — first, because Canadians are already investing as much as they can spare, and secondly, because in certain fields Canadians have not yet acquired the techniques necessary for development.

British investment in Canada should have a second advantage for Canadians. If Britain can start earning dollars from this source, it should mean a larger market in the U.K. for Canadian commodities—wheat, beef, lumber, and metals. Canada would not be so dependent on the United States for the bulk of its export market. Of course, greater dollar-earning power in the Commonwealth, through development of its raw materials, would have the same long-term effect. Malayan rubber and tin sold in the U.S. earn dollars and enable Britain to buy goods in Canada. But both the British and Canadian authorities believe that in the long run, direct investment in Canada is a more certain method of increasing trade between the two countries. The unfolding of this decision should mark a new chapter in Anglo-Canadian economic relations.

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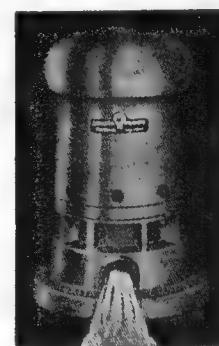
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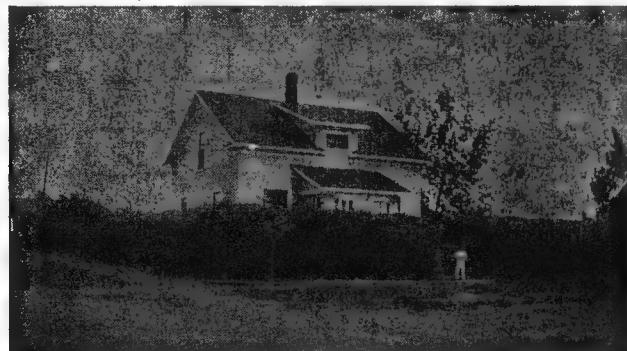
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It is not political. In fact, it deliberately avoids political aims and associations in order to maintain harmony in its own ranks.

It is not affected by religious controversies.

It holds each member's religious views as his own affair.

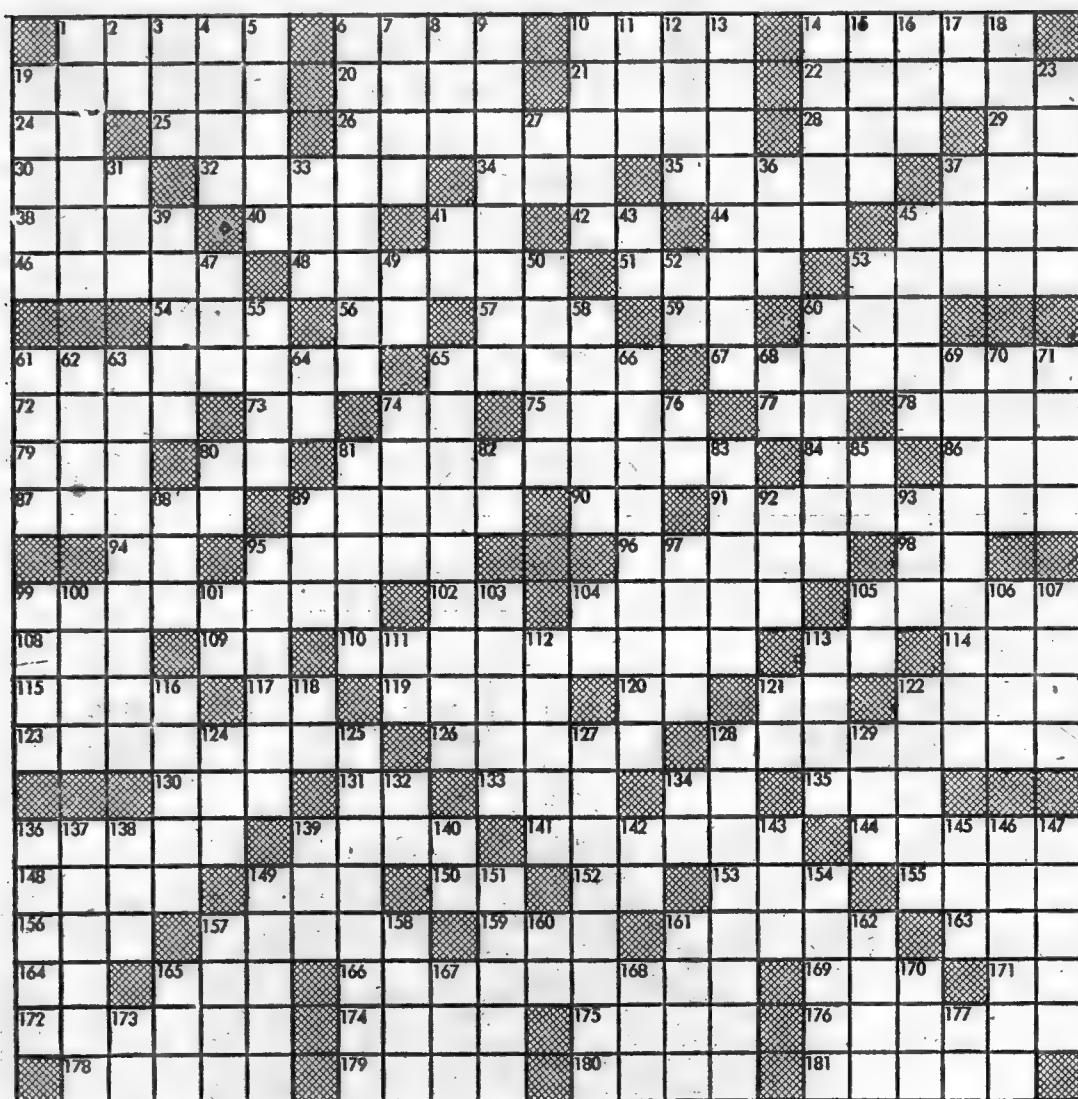
This movement is the co-operative movement.

Co-operation does not bring great individual wealth to its members. The co-operative movement is organized to distribute wealth. It does not permit men to exploit their neighbors.

Instead of wealth, co-operation brings security; instead of fear it brings joy and courage; instead of riches it brings about only an equitable allotment of the world's goods. Finally, co-operation brings a priceless selection of friends and neighbors.



OUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**HORIZONTAL.**

- 1 Ascribe
6 Reputed maker of first American flag
10 Withered
14 To rub hard to make clean
19 Former National Open golf champion
20 Man's name
21 Eagerness
22 Main artery (pl.)
24 By
25 Short sleep
26 Strangling in certain manner
28 Kind of fly
29 Hebrew letter
30 Outfit
32 Part of flower
34 A newt
35 Part of a joint
37 Small portion
38 Island in the Hebrides group
40 Kind of beetle
41 Exclamation of triumph
42 River of Norway
44 Seine
45 Manner
46 To harden
48 Dialects
51 System of signals
53 To tantalize
54 Love (anglo-Ir.)
56 North Syrian deity
57 Greek letter
- 60 Earth goddess
60 Occupied a seat
61 Hit a ball that rolled over the in-field
65 To idolize
67 Withdraws from action
72 Flower
73 To perform
74 While
75 Preposition
77 The ambarry
78 Rotate
79 Siamese coin
80 Exists
81 Disavows
84 Hawaiian hawk
86 Edible seed
87 Due reward
89 Zeal
90 Therefore
91 Periodic wind of Southern Asia (pl.)
94 Fundamental mass of life tendencies
95 Guide
96 Unstratified deposit of loam
98 3:1416
99 Marks paid
102 Symbol for tantalum
104 Luminous heavenly body
105 Depressions
108 Kind of tree number
110 Overflow (pl.)
113 U. S. soldier
114 Faucet
115 Pacific
117 Symbol for Ruthenium
119 Put up poker stake
- 120 International body
121 Hawaiian bird
122 Dread
123 Incendiary
126 Scoff
128 In a timorous manner
130 Devour
131 Japanese marine measure
132 Flower
133 To mimic
134 Teutonic deity
135 Transgression
136 Kind of fish
139 Portion
141 Strain
144 Friend: early colonist's greeting to Indian
148 Strokes lightly
149 To peruse
150 Master of ceremonies
152 Interjection of incredulity
153 To put on
155 Wound
156 Part of "to be"
157 Lock of hair
159 Candlenut tree
161 A pry
163 Chum
164 Note of scale
165 City in New Guinea
166 Method of functioning
169 Perennial herb of East Indies
171 A direction
172 Scoffs
174 Part of ship
175 Send out
176 Affirm
178 Short jackets
179 To cut after snicks
180 Repeats tirelessly
181 Rent

VERTICAL.

- 1 To allot
2 Printer's measure
3 Chinese weight
4 Period of time (pl.)
5 Lassoed
6 Considered
7 Spoken
8 Title of respect
9 Shrieked
10 A bout
11 Man's name
12 Rave
13 Breed
14 Wooden shoe
15 Animal
16 Worthless leaving
17 Syllable in Guido's scale
18 Where river current moves with great speed
19 Girl's name
23 Mediterranean vessel
27 Preposition
31 African antelope
33 Hawaiian dish
36 Signifying maiden name
37 Fur necklace
39 To debate
41 A Chinese measure
43 Roman numeral 99
45 Awards
47 Sea eagle
49 Prefix: not
50 Three-legged stool
52 King of Bashan
53 Thick, black substance
55 Sums up
58 Wild buffaloes of India
60 Blotches
61 The chick pea
62 Repetition
63 Long-legged bird
- 64 Combining form: dawn
65 Culling
66 Reason: given
68 Man's nickname
69 Assigned by authority
70 Chinese controlling principle of universe
71 Nahoor sheep
74 Military assistant
76 Sacred Hindu word
80 Pronoun
81 Attire
82 Symbol for chromium
83 Widgeons
85 Bone
88 Kind of fish (var.)
89 Siamese coin
92 A kiln
93 To unclose
95 Soul
97 Sign
99 An incarnation of Vishnu
100 Danish weight (pl.)
101 Roman number
103 A tropical American mallow
104 Symbol for calcium
105 The gods
106 Afrikaans
107 Nimble
111 New Zealand fort
112 Jumps
113 Departs
116 Cuckoos of the East Indies
118 Pronoun
121 Correlative of either
122 Money paid for an offense (pl.)
- 124 Burmese demon
125 Opening above door (pl.)
127 Iterated three-pronged spears
129 Transfix
132 Symbol for Iridium
134 Babylonian deity
136 Quarrels
137 Member of armed services
138 French for summer
139 American Author
140 Symbol for thulium
142 Symbol for rhodium
143 A month (abbr.)
145 Summit
146 Kind of fruit
147 Volcano in Martinique
149 Plant of mustard family
151 Position in fencing
154 Independent kingdom between India and Tibet
157 Mountain lake
158 Reach across
160 Child for mother
161 Cut of meat
162 To disturb
165 Sign of the Zodiac
167 A direction
168 Measure of Wurtemberg
170 A wing
173 French for "and"
177 Printer's measure

SOLUTION NEXT MONTH

Hints on seeding grasses and legumes

DURING the coming year, many Manitoba farmers will be seeding grasses and legumes. Since forage crop seed is expensive, and the hazards of uneven germination are ever present, a few timely hints may result in obtaining better stands.

1. Secure pure seed that has a high germination test, from a reputable source.

2. Reserve a portion of clean summerfallow for seeding the forage crop and use a summer seeding plan as outlined below.

3. During late spring, give the field to be seeded sufficient cultivation to kill early weed growth and to firm and mellow the seed bed.

4. Immediately following a moderate rain, in late May or until June 20th, plant the grass and legume seed, being careful to sow the seeds to a depth not exceeding one and one-half inches.

5. In most cases, brome grass should be mixed with oats and seeded through the drill box. Oats, used as a nurse crop, should be seeded at the rate of one bushel per acre. The legume seed can be added to the mixture but it is preferable to seed it through the standard grass seeder attachment.

6. Pack immediately after seeding.

7. Do not cut the stand for hay during the initial year. If necessary, the nurse crop can be cut for green feed, but care must be exercised to ensure a minimum of damage to the grass and legume. If the oats is cut with the binder for sheaf feed, the material should be removed from the field as soon as possible.

8. In succeeding years, one cut of grass alone, or grass and legume mixed, is all that is recommended. In favorable seasons, two cuts of a pure stand of alfalfa can be taken, but the second crop should be cut before the end of August.

Answers to Canadian Quiz

1. China and the U.S.S.R.
2. Middle Island in Lake Erie.
3. Lake St. Clair.
4. Lake Erie.
5. Montmagny.
6. Jasper Park, Northern Alberta.
7. Canadian Sea.
8. About 500,000 square miles. Eighty to one hundred fathoms.
9. Windsor.
10. Apparently through Cartier's misunderstanding of the Huron word "Kanata" which means "a collection of huts".

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Concrete is one of the most common building materials used around a farm. Nearly every farmer is familiar with it. This familiarity has often led to contempt. The simple rules set down by long years of use and research are not heeded. This is a broad statement, nevertheless, it applies. Throughout the length and breadth of the country one sees concrete being mixed with amazing disregard to the rules of producing a quality product. What are the rules?

The Portland Cement Association bulletin, "Concrete on the Farm," contains a table showing the amount of water that should be used per sack of cement for different types of water that should be used per sack of cement for different types of jobs. For example, four Imperial gallons are recommended per sack of cement for concrete used in most types of farm construction. With this amount of cement and water, $2\frac{1}{4}$ cubic feet of sand and 3 cubic feet of gravel are suggested. It further says: "Do not increase the amount of water." Change the proportions of sand or gravel if the mix is not as workable as you would like it.

This brings up another point. Frequently concrete is made from sand and gravel as it comes from the pit. In nearly every case there is too much sand. Fifty-fifty is not bad, but when there is more sand than that it takes more cement to make a cubic yard of good concrete. It pays to screen some pit-run gravel and add some of the coarse material to the mix. The concrete will be more dense and, therefore, more durable and water resistant. It will take fewer sacks of cement to do the job.

The cement-water ratio governs the strength of concrete. Don't drown a concrete mix!

The bulletin mentioned above may be obtained free of charge from the Canada Cement Company Limited, Phillips Square, Montreal 2, Quebec.



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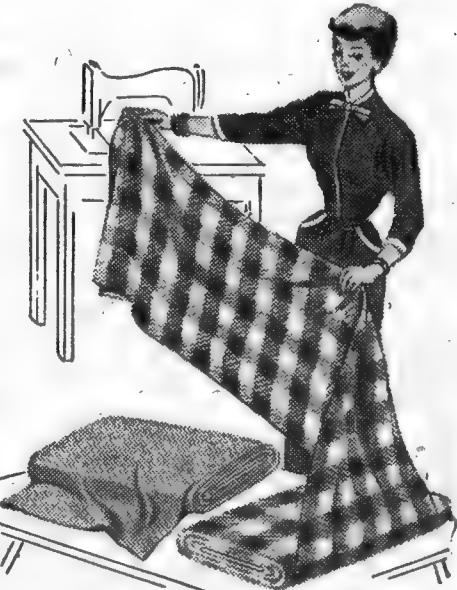
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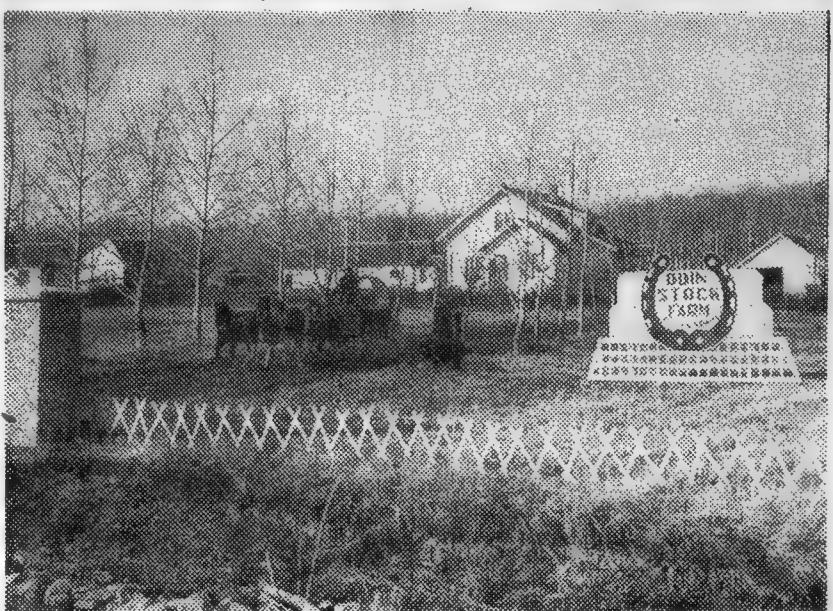
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Youngsters don't get bored with farm life when they have outfits like this to occupy their time. Floyd Gilkyson of La Glace, Alta., is the driver here. (Alberta Government photo.)

"Nobody's children" in a tormented world

By FRANK S. MORLEY, Ph.D. (Edin.), B.D.

I SAW an article entitled, "Nobody's children". I thought immediately of the children of Korea, desperate, homeless and hopeless, eating garbage from army camps. I thought of the children of Hungary, of East Germany, and of other occupied countries whose parents have been dragged off to Russian labor camps. I thought of the unhappy, bereaved children of this world.

But on reading the article I found it told the story of the child of a rich family whose father was engrossed in his business and whose mother had many social engagements. The lonely little lad wandered down town and, when asked by a kindly policeman whom he belonged to, he replied, "I'm nobody's child". So a rich child can be neglected too and feel that nobody cares for him.

On the "Town Meeting of the Air" the question was asked, "What worries you most at the present time?" An analysis of the five thousand answers received revealed that sixty-two per cent were worried by the lack of moral and ethical security in the world. That is, they lacked spiritual faith. They felt that no one cared whether they lived or died. That was the feeling of the Psalmist which constitutes my text, "Refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul".

When we feel this way we despair of the world. Young people feel that there is no use finishing their education—they are destined to another war. Men and women feel that they might just as well eat, drink and be merry. Enjoy today to the uttermost without thought of good ethical and moral behaviour. A great man was once asked what question he would

like to have answered beyond all others and he replied, "Is the universe kind?" In other words, "Does any one care for my soul?"

Those Good Old Days

There are people who feel that the world is getting worse. It is going on to destruction and we can do nothing about it. Evil is in the saddle and controls man's destiny. It is a destructive attitude of "What's the use?" Some talk wistfully of "the good old days". Have we a right to feel this way? An account of the "good old days" of the pioneers describes: "incredible quantities of whisky were consumed, everybody, women and preachers included, drinking the fiery liquid. A bottle was in every cabin — to offer it was the first gesture of welcome, to refuse unpardonable incivility. All used tobacco, chewing, smoking, snuffing; and corn-cob pipes in the mouths of women were a not uncommon sight. Men were quick to fight and combats were brutal. Profanity was general and emphatic". And as we read of the problems of discipline we cannot believe those days to have been ideal.

Nor were the days of John Wesley ideal — days of unbelievable cruelty to children, of child labor with hours and conditions that no man would tolerate today, of infanticide, of ignorance, of brutal sports, of debauchery — "the Gin Age", days of crime and lawlessness that made every street a menace from robbers.

A Church official spoke of "the civilized thirteenth century". How could he say anything so stupid! It was an age when the mass of people were in serfdom — a condition little

better than slavery. It was an age of superstition and ignorance. It was an age of warfare throughout the whole western world, warfare which was carried on with the most fiendish cruelty. It was a heartless age without decency or kindness or civilized comforts.

No, there has never been a paradise on earth since the Garden of Eden. Those "good old days" just did not exist.

God Cares For Man

If we are going to have hope we must see God as Creator and Controller of the world. If we are going to believe that someone does "care for our souls", then we must see that God brought us into the world and has a plan for our lives.

Go back to the book of Genesis and see God speaking the creative word, "Let there be light." See Him bringing life into the nothingness, order and law into the chaos, day into the night. We stand in amazement before electricity and have no awe before the lightning and the planets and the flowers. We are fascinated by a flashlight and blind before the stars. We are proud of our little clever mechanical cars and we ignore the miracle of God's mighty engine of day and night, of summer and winter, of fall and spring that has never missed a beat.

Start with that. Then look upon our world. See how through history there is one constant lesson, that evil perishes and good triumphs. There is something destructive in evil that makes it evil. So dictators defeat themselves. So selfishness is self-destructive.

Then look upon your own life. Can you not see a guidance? Your friends come to you all unsought. If a man has any spiritual insight at all he must see that he is led.

God created the world and is still creating a new world. God created mankind and has a destiny for mankind. God created your life and has a plan for you. God loves. God cares for every sparrow. "Are you not of much more value than many sparrows?"

The Meaning of the Cross

We have a crusade with God, you and I. Out of 2,300,000,000 human beings on this planet, 1,500,000,000 are hungry and illiterate. Nine-tenths of the people of Asia and Africa are hungry, sick, in debt, wretched, unable to read or write. Will it be a Christian or Communist revolution? Do we care for the souls of these oppressed people?

General Eisenhower in "Crusade in Europe", tells of waiting to cross the Rhine and of coming on a soldier. The poor lad had been wounded twice and had just returned to duty. He was very nervous. He confessed to the General that he was worried. Eisenhower told him of his own anxiety, but he went on to tell the soldier that he had

made all possible preparations in guns, air-cover, and support. He believing they could win through. And the soldier wasn't afraid any more. So God has promised us that we can win through. We have His word. We can trust our Leader.

Does God care for me? In the crises of life men must have God. No one else can help them or care for them. Cronin tells of a South Wales mining town and of fourteen men buried in a slide. As the rescuers dug through they heard singing: "O God our help in ages past . . ." Henry Francis Lyte was going to South France to die. As he walked on the beach the night before he uttered the thought which he was to write into a hymn, "Abide with me, fast falls the eventide". Then the Titanic was going down, the passengers sang on the deck, "The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide".

There is Future Life

I am taking a man's place this summer, substituting for a very great man, Peter Marshall, famous minister of a famous Church in Washington, was to have exchanged with Mr. Wylie of Belfast. But Peter Marshall had a heart attack and died. So a new exchange was made with myself. It is impossible for me to fill Peter Marshall's place. I pray I shall be able to take the people of Whiteabbey Church something of his Christian courage and faith. He was a very great man. When he knew death was not far away, a friend asked him, "Are you afraid of death?" he replied, "No, I'm not. I'm looking forward to it. I can hardly wait." His last words to his wife were, "See you in the morning, darling!"

There is a God. You may pretend and bluster and boast. You may make life revolve about your little interests and desires. You may make your cosmos the centre of the world. But you will find there is a God. Through the life of every individual, through the life of every community, through the life of every nation run His unchangeable decrees. Live by them or perish. They are stronger than granite and more enduring than the stars. Before Him at least every knee shall bow. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Once I went to see a little teen-age girl whose whole body was withered by disease until the bones held the skin in sharp outlines. Her great, frightened eyes looked up into mine. I felt one moment of panic lest I not say the right thing. I thought of a hymn we used to sing when we were children on Sunday nights around the family piano: "I'm a child of the King". So I repeated it for her. Peace came to her face. Her lips moved in a little smile. And she settled back quietly into the Everlasting Arms. God cared for her soul. So He does for you . . . and you!

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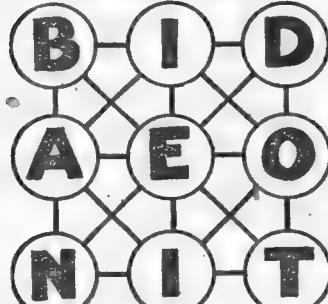
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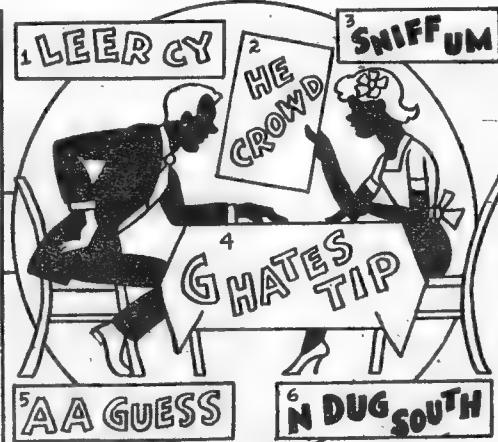
OUR NAMES ARE LISTED BELOW. CAN YOU PRINT IN A LETTER OVER EACH DASH TO MAKE THE COMBINED LETTERS SPELL THE NAMES OF OUR OCCUPATIONS?



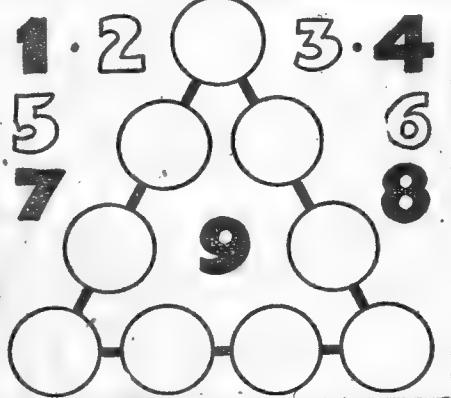
SPELL 20 OR MORE THREE-LETTER WORDS, START FROM CERTAIN LETTERS AND MOVE ALONG A LINE TO THE NEXT LETTER IN ANY DIRECTION.



HELP
THE PUZZLED PATRONS TO UNSCRAMBLE EACH GROUP OF LETTERS TO SPELL FOODS ON THE MENU.

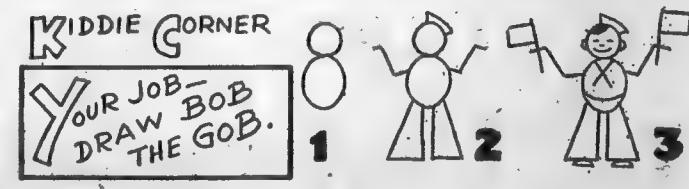
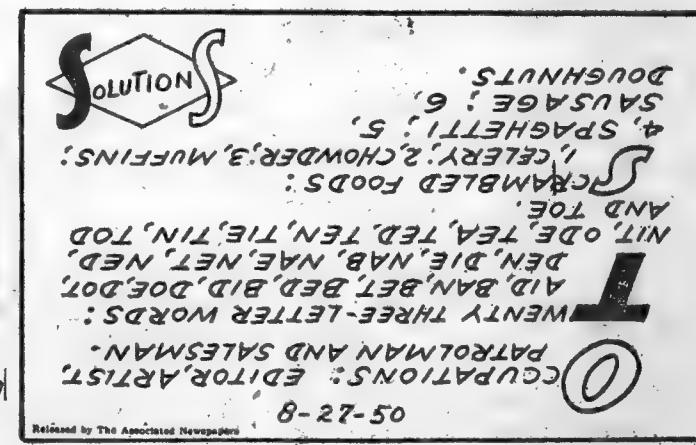
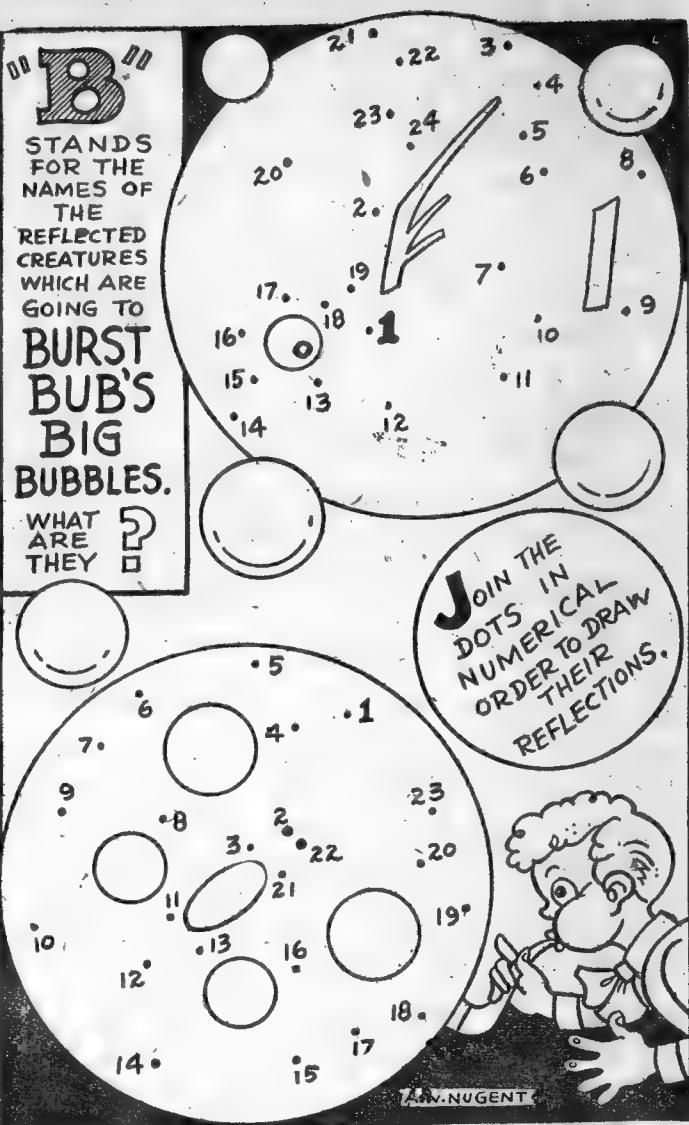
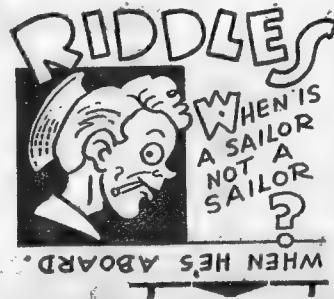
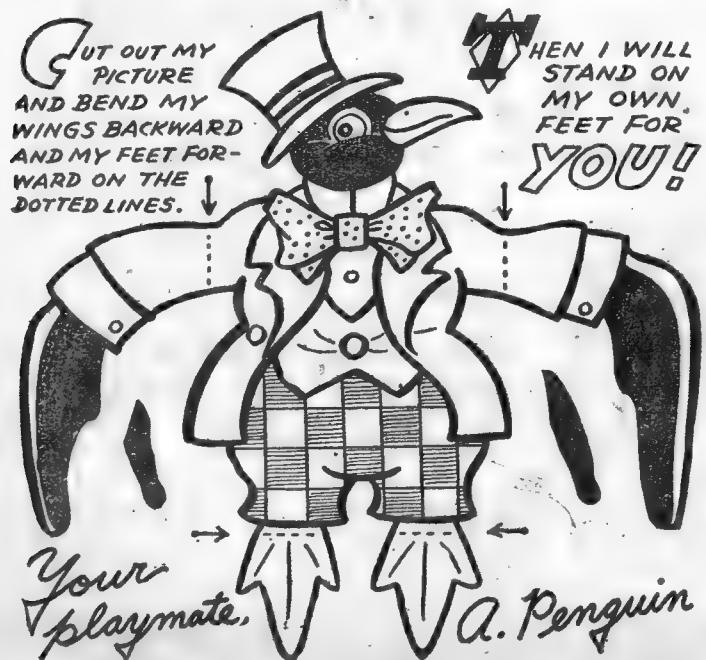


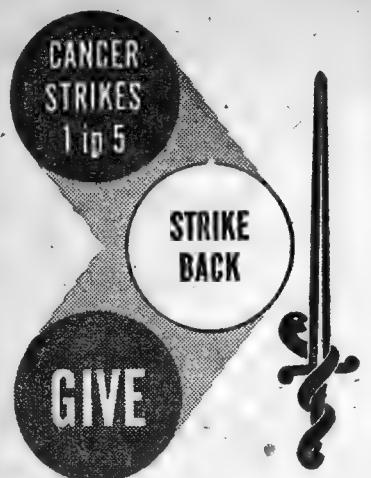
TRY TO WRITE THE 9 GIVEN SINGLE NUMBERS IN THE CIRCLES SO THAT EACH OF THE 3 SIDES WILL TOTAL EXACTLY 20.



A.W. NUGENT
Released by The Associated Newspapers

ANSWER: CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP 5, 3, 4, 8, 1, 9, 2, 6, 7.





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Average of \$595 set for 1,138 beef bulls

CALGARY'S annual bull sale, the second largest in history on the point of animals sold and total receipts, ended with many buyers still bidding on the animals lined up for sale.

After the last animal had been disposed of, it was found that a total of 1,135 head of Aberdeen-Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn bulls had been sold between Monday and Saturday for a total of \$675,489 for an average of \$595.88. The 1952 average was \$714.62, the comparative average decrease this year being \$119.

Herefords comprised the greater part of the sale. Between Wednesday morning and Saturday evening, relays of auctioneers sold 818 Herefords for a total of \$529,595 for an average of \$647.43.

Last year, 589 Herefords brought a total of \$453,656 for an average of \$770.06.

On the first day, 165 Shorthorns were sold for a total of \$67,420 or an average of \$475.19. In 1952, Shorthorns to the number of 172 sold for \$93,570 or an average of \$536.40.

On the second day, 152 Aberdeen-Angus sold for \$64,480, and an average of \$443.55. Last year, 92 Aberdeen-Angus sold for \$64,285, or an average of \$698.75.

Biggest sale in point of value was recorded in 1951 when a total of 720 bulls sold for \$816,375 and an all-time average price of \$1,119.86.

Hereford breeders were especially pleased with their sale. While the average was down somewhat from last year, the fact remains that they were able to dispose of more than 800 bulls without one animal having

to be passed out of the ring for failure to receive the upset price of \$250.

Then, again, one of the bulls sold brought \$8,000, another \$6,050, a third brought \$5,000 and a fourth exceeded the \$5,000 mark.

Reduced prices were expected in view of lower prices for commercial cattle, but the sale held up remarkably well in spite of the large number of bulls on offer.

Manitoba wins barley award

MANITOBA grown barley for the sixth time in seven years won top award in the National Barley Contest sponsored by the brewing and malting industry.

The 1952 national champion is Donald J. McFadden, Rivers, whose carload entry was picked at Calgary, March 17, as the best of 1,095 entries from Manitoba and Alberta in last year's competition.

Another Manitoba grower, Anthony Gillis, Cypress River, was runner-up for the national championship. McFadden, in addition to getting \$200 as Manitoba champion and \$100 for placing first in his region, gets an additional \$500 for winning the major prize.

McFadden and Gillis in the final stage of the judging competed against the two top provincial winners from Alberta, W. J. Keith, Sylvan Lake, and Nick Symozum, Colinton.

Washed or unwashed soiled eggs are poor storage risks, according to U.S.D.A. studies.

Meditations at twilight

By A. L. MARKS

THE "quality" of hospitality, like Shakespeare says of the "quality" of mercy, "is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle dew from heaven, upon the place beneath."

But sometimes it may be misinterpreted.

We lived at Norfolk, Nebraska, in the late 80's.

Father, and a neighbor, Sam Mather, were hired by the Yankton Short Line Railway Company to buy right-of-way, across the plains of South Dakota.

One evening, after a long, hot day's driving in their buckboard, during which they had encountered only two or three settlers, they were tired, dirty and sleepy. It got dusk and it looked like a night under the stars for them.

Suddenly, across the prairie, a wee light twinkled. They made for it. On arriving, they found the small, one-roomed sod shack inhabited by a middle-aged Irish widow, her daughter Maggie, and some hens roosting in the corner by a flour barrel.

The kindly lady took them in, fed them, and said they could climb up the short ladder to the garret to sleep.

They slept soundly. Before daylight next morning Sam awoke first and heard their hostess frying something, and heard her say, "Maggie, turn them chickens." Sam poked Dad in the ribs and said, "Frank, we're going to have chicken for breakfast."

Later they pulled on their clothes and crept down the ladder. Breakfast was ready, but the meat was sowbelly, not chicken, and they wondered.

Presently the widow said again, "Maggie, turn them chickens," and Maggie went to the chickens roosting on the edge of the flour barrel, and turned them the other way. They were turned the wrong way for the flour.

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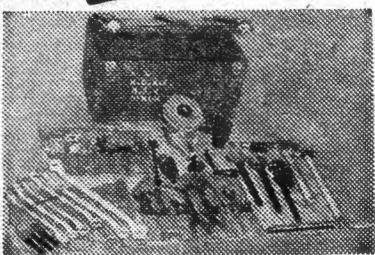
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Special, per pair \$18.95
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I SAW ON THE FARM A SECTION FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

We have several squirrels in the pine trees around our farm buildings. They like to tease the dog and will run down the trees and jump over the dog. In the fall they eat a lot of pine cones and gather mushrooms and pieces of bones and scraps of bread and store them in Daddy's tool shed, filling cans and boxes, and they make an awful mess, but we like to see them running around so we do not let anyone destroy them.

Irene and Marjorie McKillop.
Seba Beach, Alberta.

One day I found a duck's nest with some little ducks in it, so I took one home and raised it. It used to fly about two miles to the neighbor's and stay in their porch a while and then would fly home. That fall it flew south with a flock of ducks, but last spring it came back with its mate and had a nest near the house. I am looking forward for its arrival this spring.

Lloyd Johnston.
R.R. 2, Langbank, Sask.

One day last summer I heard one of our bantam chicks peeping very loudly. I went out to the barn to find that one of our pullets had been blown up with air. It looked as though the air had gotten under her skin. I took her to the house where mother said the best thing to do was to make holes in her skin with a needle. This let the air out and the little chicken was soon happy again. The next morning she was blown up, so

we had to do the same thing again. We had to do this for four or five days.

Violet Ulchek.
Owlseye, Alberta.

Last winter we had a pile of wheat screenings enclosed inside a wooden pen with a layer of straw on top. There was an opening in the straw and here the sparrows came to feed on the weed seeds and wheat. One afternoon our cat stationed himself in a short tunnel at one side of the opening. Presently, the flock of sparrows returned and settled down on the screenings. The cat pounced on the sparrows killing more than one at a time. The others which had flown away returned and again the cat killed some. After this happened a few times, I walked to the pen and saw seven dead sparrows. The cat had eaten all the sparrows it could and had killed these just for the pleasure and ease in doing it. It is a wonder to me why the sparrows kept returning when they knew the cat was waiting there.

Donald Yaremko.
Chelan, Sask.

In our kitchen we have a five-inch pipe where our dish water is drained. Last fall my sister and I were sitting on the kitchen bench waiting for the men to come in for dinner. My sister was sitting day-dreaming and eyeing the hole in the cement floor, all at once she let out a scream. She saw a muskrat coming out of the pipe and



sat down to nibble at a carrot, but it went down the pipe and up again till the men came in and caught it and carried it to a nearby slough.

Marie Chetter.
Box 400, Irma, Alta.

I helped mother ripping some old coats for remaking clothes for children. When we were done, Mom picked up the scraps, which included the old shoulder-pads. When she picked them up, we heard a sound like stiff plastic, so I said, "Why would they put plastic in shoulder-pads?" Lets see what it looks like. So she began to rip the pad, and what do you think we saw? A five-dollar bill all folded up. What a surprise to see!

Bertha Loewen.

Bagot, Man.

One day my cat wanted something to play with, so I gave her a marble and I went back into the next room. A couple of minutes later my cat came again, so I went to see what happened to her marble, but there wasn't any more marble to be seen, so I gave her another one, and I watched to see what was happening to them. And to my surprise, our little house dog, Sandy, was swallowing them as fast as I gave them to my cat.

Maxine Sarson.

Dollard, Sask.

Last week, while the teacher of our room and our class were on a nature hike, we came upon some old Indian relics. The group I was in was walking in a small field when we saw something shining on the ground. On close inspection we found three arrowheads. When the three groups met at the school at three o'clock, we had found three arrowheads, some Indian beads and an old tomahawk. Our nature hike turned out to be a hike for Indian relics, but, on the whole, it was very interesting.

Eveline Bowen.

Glenside, Sask.

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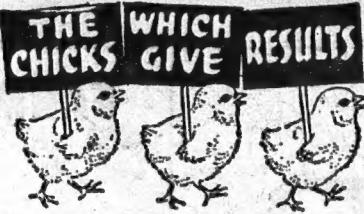
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"C", ASPLEY GOOSE FARM, Comox, B.C.

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Pringle's have been producing reliable high-quality chicks for 22 years. Join Pringle's 15,000 other satisfied customers.

1953 Alberta Pringle Baby Chick Prices per 100 :

R.O.P. Sired. Approved Mix. Pull.

20.00 38.00 W. Leg.

21.00 36.00 N. Hamp.

20.00 35.00

22.00 37.00 B. Rocks.

22.00 37.00

Cross Bred 20.00 37.00

22.00 37.00 Lt. Sussex 21.00 36.00

22.00 37.00 W. Rocks. 21.00 36.00

B. Aust. 22.00 37.00

Rock-Hamp, other crosses 21.00 36.00

Remember—10% FREE CHICKS added to all orders booked at least 4 weeks in advance.

Toulouse Goslings, \$1.95 ea.

Ducklings, \$50.00 per 100.

White Chinese Goslings, \$1.50 ea.

Pringle Canadian Approved B.B.B. Turkey Poult — Competitive Alberta prices guaranteed.

PRINGLE
ELECTRIC HATCHERIES

Calgary, Edmonton, South Edmonton,
and Chilliwack, B.C.

SAVE MONEY ON DEPENDABLE Used Equipment

Ready to go to Work !

D2-40

With track guards and one-way brush cutter.

\$3,350.00

D4-60

Front, pull hook, crankcase and track roller guards.

\$3,190.00

OLIVER CLETRAC

With crankcase guard and track roller guard, lighting and starting systems, belt pulley.

\$1,950.00

**CLETRAC BDH
TRACTOR**

Crankcase and track roller guards, starter.

\$2,300.00

**MASSEY-HARRIS
MODEL 101S**

With rubber tires, belt pulley, power take-off shaft and lights.

\$760.00

MASSEY-HARRIS 101

With 201 motor. Wheel weights and rubber tires.

\$850.00

MASSEY-HARRIS 55GS

Lighting and starting system, belt pulley and power take-off.

\$2,600.00

CASE MODEL L

Belt pulley, rear power take-off, 2 lights, steel wheels.

\$400.00

JOHN DEER "D"

Canopy top. Lights. Starting system.

\$1,250.00

**JOHN DEERE
MODEL "AR"**

With belt pulley.

\$1,600.00

OLIVER 77

With 3 lights, starter, power take-off, belt pulley and wheel weights. Has 12 x 26 tires (rear) 600 x 16 tires (front).

\$1,600.00

COCKSHUTT 30

With battery lighting, take-off, belt pulley and.

\$1,600.00

NUMEROUS OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM! VISIT OR WRITE THE UNION TRACTOR BRANCH NEAREST YOU FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

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Advertising Manager,
UNION TRACTOR &
EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.,
Calgary, Alberta,
Please send me further information on Items No. _____
NAME _____
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FRR-4-53

**UNION TRACTOR
AND EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.**

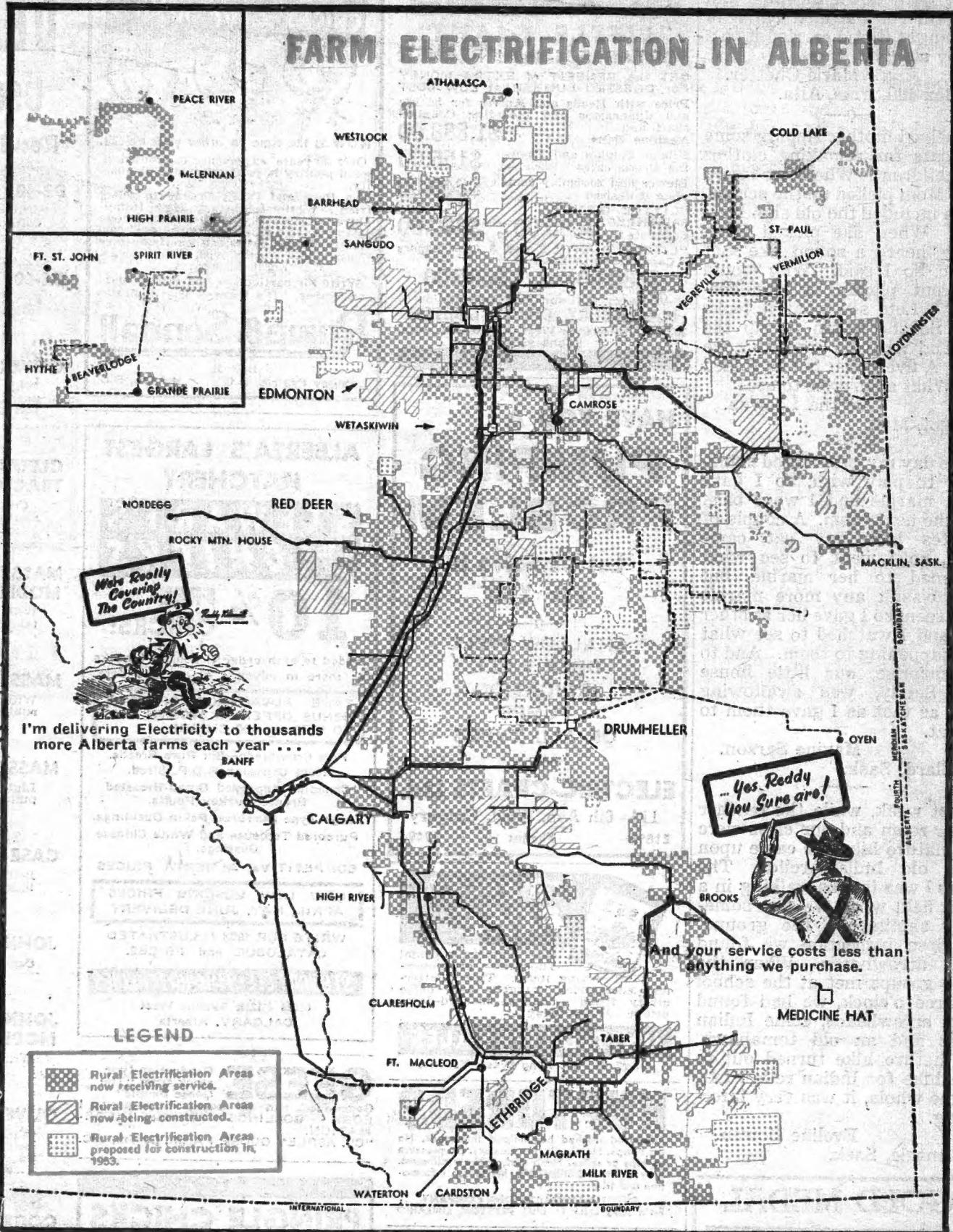
"CATERPILLAR" DISTRIBUTORS

CALGARY EDMONTON RED DEER

GRANDE PRAIRIE LETHBRIDGE GRIMSHAW

and DAWSON CREEK, B.C.

FARM ELECTRIFICATION IN ALBERTA



More than three hundred Rural Electrification Areas shown on this map are now supplied (or will be supplied) with electricity from the power transmission lines of the following power companies :

Calgary Power Ltd.
Canadian Utilities Limited
Northland Utilities Limited

24K



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u, too, will love a

Pontiac

29 BEAUTIFUL MODELS to choose from in five great series for 1953—Pathfinder, Pathfinder Deluxe, Laurentian, Chieftain and Chieftain Deluxe.

GREAT NEW WIDE-HORIZON VISION with a one-piece curved windshield and sweeping wrap-around rear window!

DRAMATIC NEW DUAL-STREAK STYLING makes Pontiac even more distinctive, more individual in appearance than ever!

NEW LONGER WHEELBASE on Chieftains gives you that big car feel and lets you enjoy the smoothness of Pontiac's Comfort-Master Ride!

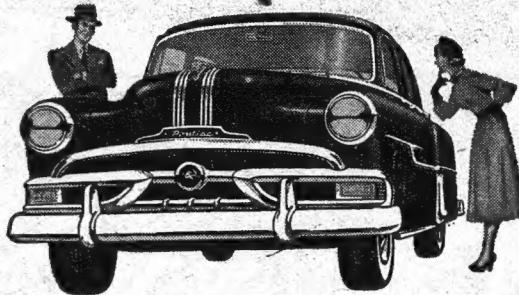
PONTIAC'S NEW POWER STEERING† is available to eliminate as much as 75% of the work of steering!

NEW DELUXE COLOR-KEYED INTERIORS with nylon-broadcloth fabrics in smart decorator colors harmonizing with the car color!

NEW, FINER POWERGLIDE† on Laurentian and Pathfinder Deluxe series offers new flashing acceleration, greater economy and new over-all performance.

SPECTACULAR†DUAL-RANGE HYDRA-MATIC PERFORMANCE on Chieftains gives you better control than ever. Gives you the power you want, when you want it, where you want it!

GM *SHADE-LITE TINTED GLASS with exclusive, graduated windshield-tinting. Shade-Lite Glass all 'round greatly reduces unpleasant heat and glare.



*New and Beautiful Proof that
Dollar for Dollar
You Can't Beat Pontiac!*

ECONOMIZER REAR AXLE with Automatic Transmission reduces engine revolutions in Drive Range for more go on less gas!

INCREASED ROOMINESS has been cleverly engineered into the great 1953 Pontiacs for solid comfort all the way!

HANDSOME NEW PANORAMA-VIEW INSTRUMENT PANEL puts everything within easy sight and reach. "Green-glo" illumination for better night-time vision.

KEY-QUICK AUTOMATIC STARTING. One turn of the key starts the car. Key automatically returns to normal position for driving.

CROSS-COUNTRY LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT has larger opening, lower lock and handle for easy accessibility.

NEW HYDRAULIC BRAKE MASTER CYLINDER on Laurentian and Pathfinder Series gives 30% more line pressure for a given pedal force. This combined with extra-large 11" Brake Drums and self-energizing brake mechanism assures easy, safe stopping power.

THE NEW *AUTRONIC EYE automatically dims and brightens headlights—makes night driving easier, safer, more comfortable.

NEW EASY-PULL HAND BRAKE increases efficiency of the entire emergency braking mechanism.

NEW CRANK-OPERATED VENTI-PANE OPERATION. Front Venti-Panes are crank-operated for greater ease. Rear Venti-Panes on Chieftains are restyled with relocated locks.

NEW PARKING AND STEERING EASE are achieved by new engineering advances in steering mechanism to reduce the steering effort of parking as much as 20% on Chieftain Series.

NEW FRONT SUSPENSION on Chieftain Series inclined four degrees to rear of vertical to allow front springs to absorb more bump shock, smooth out rough roads.

NEW FRONT AND REAR SUSPENSION on Laurentian and Pathfinder Series have softer springs and modified shock absorbers, bringing a finer, smoother ride.

PONTIAC'S RUGGED BODY BY FISHER excels in strength and safety, and is outstanding for comfort and appearance.

PONTIAC'S GREAT EIGHT-CYLINDER ENGINE. General Motors' lowest-priced eight and the most highly perfected engine in the industry!

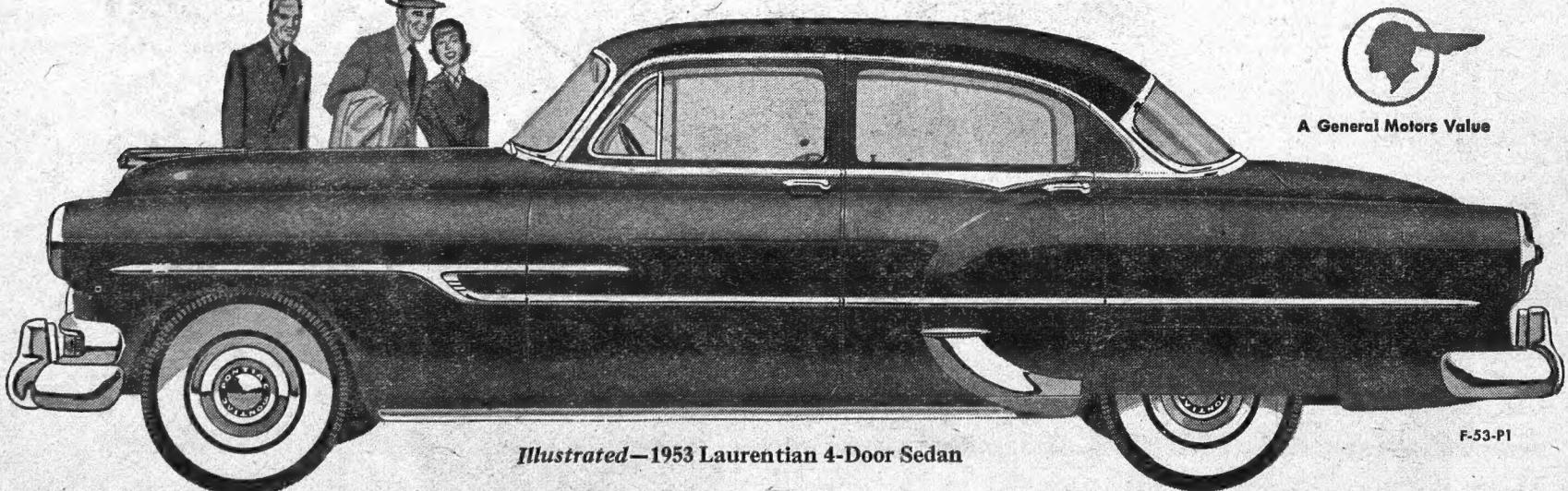
PONTIAC'S THRIFTY SIX with dramatically increased horsepower to deliver thousands upon thousands of smooth, economical miles.

*Available at extra cost.

†Automatic Transmissions and Power Steering optional at extra cost on Chieftain, Laurentian and Pathfinder Deluxe Series.



A General Motors Value



Illustrated—1953 Laurentian 4-Door Sedan

F-53-P1